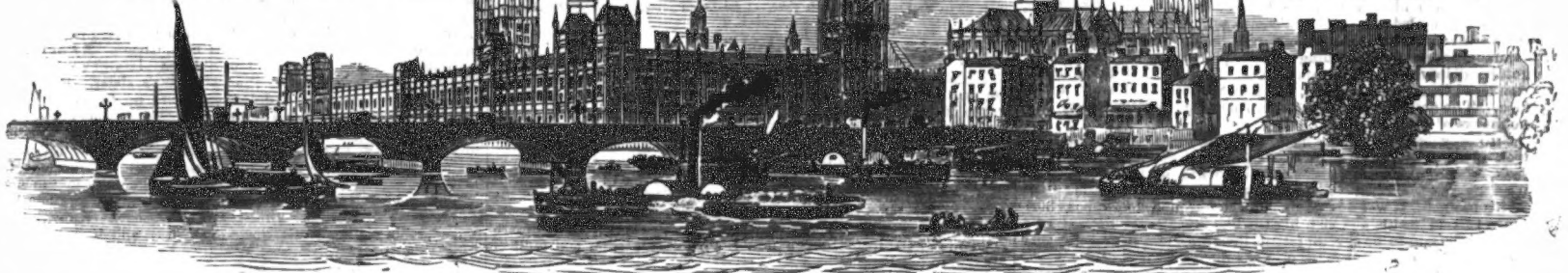


John Dick 313 Strand

PENNY ILLUSTRATED WEEKLY NEWS.



No. 37.—VOL. II. NEW SERIES.

LONDON, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 1865.

ONE PENNY.



DESTRUCTION OF THE SURREY THEATRE BY FIRE.—INTERIOR AND EXTERIOR VIEW. (See page 546.)

Notes of the Week.

On Saturday morning, a singular explosion took place in Bow Church-yard. There is a handsome drinking-fountain there, which was erected by Messrs. Copstock, the water from which, it was noticed for a few days past, was strongly impregnated with gas. On Saturday morning the front stone of the fountain was blown out with considerable force, and on an excavation being made it was found that a gas main beneath leaked, and so allowed of an accumulation of gas in the hollow part of the fountain.

On Saturday morning, Mr. Larding, of Woodland Farm, Shooter's-hill, was proceeding across his lands, when he discovered the dead body of a little boy in the middle of a ploughed field. It has since been identified as the body of a child four years of age, named John Dedman, of Cook's-cottages, Cage-lane, Plumstead, whose parents state that he has been missing since the 23rd of January, and notwithstanding every inquiry being instituted, could not be discovered. It is conjectured that the poor little fellow wandered from home, got lost, and perished from cold and want of food. The child's cap and boot were missing; but the body bore no marks of violence.

Shortly before twelve o'clock on Saturday a serious accident took place at the Chartered Gas Company's Works, Horseferry-road, Westminster. It appears that a portion of the works were used by the workmen as a refreshment-room, and called "the men's lobby." It was a large room on the ground floor, about 30ft long, 15ft in width, and 20ft high. The ceiling was formed of a brick arch, said to be several feet in thickness, and bound together by iron girders. That arch ceiling supported a part of the works known as the gas purifying room, and at a quarter to twelve o'clock there was a loud crack heard in the men's lobby. The noise was distinctly heard at the distance of half a mile, and was followed by the screams of the men. The workpeople discovered that the arch ceiling of the men's lobby had fallen in and buried four men. The most dreadful rumours were instantly afloat in the neighbourhood, and several hundred people congregated outside the walls of the gas works. The police were sent for to keep the crowd in order, and the men were got out of the ruins, and removed on stretchers to Westminster Hospital.

PRESIDENT LINCOLN AND THE INTERNATIONAL WORKING MEN'S ASSOCIATION.

SOME few weeks since a congratulatory address was sent from the central council of the above association to Mr. Lincoln. The address was transmitted through the United States' Legation, and the following reply has been received:—

"Legation of the United States, London, Jan. 31.

"Sir,—I am directed to inform you that the address of the central council of your association, which was duly transmitted through this legation to the President of the United States, has been received by him. So far as the sentiments expressed by it are personal, they are accepted by him with a sincere and anxious desire that he may be able to prove himself not unworthy of the confidence which has been recently extended to him by his fellow-citizens, and by so many of the friends of humanity and progress throughout the world. The Government of the United States has a clear consciousness that its policy neither is nor can be reactionary, but, at the same time, it adheres to the course which it adopted at the beginning, of abstaining everywhere from propaganda and unlawful intervention. It strives to do equal and exact justice to all States and to all men, and it relies upon the beneficial results of that effort for support at home and for respect and goodwill throughout the world. Nations do not exist for themselves alone, but to promote the welfare and happiness of mankind by benevolent intercourse and example. It is in this relation that the United States regard their cause in the present conflict with slavery-maintaining insurgents as the cause of human nature, and they derive new encouragement to persevere from the testimony of the working men of Europe that the national attitude is favoured with their enlightened approval and earnest sympathies.—I have the honour to be, sir, your obedient servant,

"CHARLES FRANCIS ADAMS.

"Mr. W. E. Cresser, Hon. Gen. Secretary of the International Working Men's Association, 15, Greek-street, W."

THE BURNING OF THE SURREY THEATRE.

In last week's issue of the *Penny Illustrated Weekly News* we gave a detailed description of the burning of the Surrey Theatre; this week we give an illustration of that sad catastrophe. We understand the lessees of the old house are already occupied with plans for the erection of another.

Those who are fond of strange coincidences may find one in connection with this affair. Mr. Windham, the lessee of the Theatre Royal, Edinburgh, was in the Surrey Theatre when the telegram informing him that his theatre was destroyed was put into his hands. He returned at once to Edinburgh, and remained there until Monday week, when he came to London, arriving just in time to see the Surrey Theatre in flames.

Benefits in aid of the employees at the late Surrey have been given at many of the theatres and music halls during the past week.

WRECK OF THE SAN JACINTO.

THE United States steamship *San Jacinto*, rendered famous as being the vessel which, in November, 1861, under command of Captain Wilkes, took from on board the British steamer *Trent* the commissioners Seward and Mason, when on their way as ministers of the Southern Confederacy to France and England, was wrecked on a reef of No Name Key, on the Bahama banks, on the morning of New Year's Day. Chasing a blockade runner into neutral waters, and hoping to prevent her getting out in the night, Captain Meade got too close in shore, and struck the reef. The crew were saved, and also the guns and most of the stores, the wreckers being probably driven off by the English and American war steamers that came to the assistance of the *San Jacinto*. The wreckers of the Bahama Banks are a peculiar class of men. Nearly all negroes or creoles, strong, daring, and trained to hardships, good swimmers, and well-accustomed with every reef and current in the Gulf Stream, and the adjacent waters; they will put out to sea in the darkest night, and in the most threatening weather, lured by the hopes of picking up a few boxes or bales from some stranded ship, or, perhaps, only a few masts and spars. Their vessels are usually small sloops, light, swift, and of but little draught. They are frequently the property of small capitalists of Nassau, Abaco, or Key West, and are manned by a captain, mate, and three or four hands. Instances have been known of a wrecking-master making a fortune in a single trip by coming up with a vessel abandoned by its crew. By the law he can then claim the whole vessel and cargo as his. As a general rule, however, all that a wrecker can hope to get from a stranded ship are a few boxes or bales of damaged goods, and a few masts, spars, and planks, the result of his night's work he proceeds usually to Nassau, and there disposes of the articles. The frequent storms which sweep the waters at this season of the year, the blind reefs and perplexing currents, give the wreckers ample employment, and render this portion of the coast a terror to the mariner. More wrecks take place here than in any other portion of the world, and it is affirmed that the inhabitants of Nassau are, in a great measure, dependent for their support on the wrecking trade. It is certain that an enormous quantity of wrecked goods are annually sold here at merely nominal prices, money being scarce on the island.—*New York Times*.

Foreign News.

PRUSSIA.

A curious incident occurred at the last Court reception at Berlin. M. von Ahlefeldt, nominally charge d'affaires of the Prince of Augustenburg, was by mistake ushered into the saloon reserved for diplomats; but almost before he had recovered from his surprise at finding himself in such unexpected company, he was spied out by the terrible Von Bismarck, who immediately instructed a royal aide-de-camp to conduct the prince's envoy to another apartment. Messrs. Grabow and Bockam-Düla, president and vice president of the Prussian Chamber of Deputies, having received invitations to the Court ball recently held, were suddenly seized with a mysterious indisposition which prevented them from being present.

MEXICO.

The Emperor Maximilian has created Mr. Givin, ex-senator of California, Viceroy of the provinces of Sonora, Chihuahua, Sinaloa, Durango, and Lower California, which provinces have been ceded to the Emperor Napoleon in return for the aid rendered by his troops in the establishment of the new Mexican empire.

The French troops are continually gaining new successes in their operations on the Pacific coast.

The Viceroy Givin is to have a sufficient force of troops to support him in the exercise of his functions. Emigration, to work the mines and develop the resources of the provinces ceded to France, is to be encouraged from the Confederate States and from southern residents in California. The new State extends from the Gulf of Mexico to the Pacific.

A Washington despatch says:—"Certain information has been received of the cession of the north-western provinces of Mexico to France. The arrangement was secretly concluded with the Emperor Napoleon several months ago. It is regarded as a Napoleonic move in favour of the South."

AMERICA.

Admiral Porter writes as under respecting the capture of Fort Fisher:—

"North Atlantic Squadron, Flagship *Malvern*, off Fort Fisher, Jan. 16.

"Sir,—I wrote you yesterday we have all the forts. The army has captured eighteen hundred men and a large number of officers, including General Whiting and Colonel Lamb. The gunboats are now in the river, and Wilmington is hermetically sealed against blockade-runners. The rebels have destroyed the works on Smith's Island, and if they don't destroy Fort Oswell it is of no use to them. We will get that after a little while. You must not expect too much of us at one time. These works are tremendous. I was in Fort Mifflin a few days after its surrender to the French and English. The combined armies of these two nations were many months capturing that stronghold, and it won't compare either in size or strength to Fort Fisher. The fort contained seventy-five guns, and many of them were heavy ones. I have not yet learned what our casualties are in killed and wounded, but I think 300 will cover them all. We had a bad explosion in the fort this morning, which killed and wounded a number of men—about one hundred. Some of our seamen were blown up, and Acting Assistant Paymaster R. H. Gillett, of the *Gettysburg*, was killed. I will send a detailed report as soon as I can get off the wounded and arrange matters generally. The field never saw such fighting as our soldiers did.—I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant, D. D. PORTER, Rear-Admiral. Hon. Gideon Welles, Secretary of the Navy, Washington, D. C.

The *Courier* severely condemns all peace projects, and says war, not peace, is the business of the Confederacy, and all talk about peace is irrelevant and senseless. The South is able at this hour to put half a million fighting men in the field, and still leave enough for agriculture and manufactures. If Congress cannot do its duty and drop its peace imposture, it should be superseded by a convention of States.

The *Richmond Whig* of the 21st inst. says:—"Captain Raphael Semmes is in Richmond. We learn from the *Charlotte Bulletin* of the 14th inst. that this distinguished commander addressed the citizens of Charlotte last evening at Trebar Hall, in a brief but cheering speech. After an absence of four years, looking on from the outside, he was now for the first time during the war taking an inside view of the Confederacy; and while he saw much to be pleased with, he also saw something which he did not like, and could not commend. He saw workshops and manufacturing and other internal improvements going on briskly, and he was pleased to see all these evidences of our ability to carry on war; but, on the other hand, he saw much gloom and despondency, which, although no doubt attributable chiefly to our recent reverses, were yet totally uncalled for by anything in the present situation of our affairs. The prospects of the Confederacy are as bright now as they ever were, and he was never more assured than now of our ability to achieve our independence. All that is required now is a cheerful, spirited, united, and determined effort. In conclusion, Captain Semmes gave an interesting resume of his career on the high seas in the *Sumter* and *Alabama*."

"In the Confederate House of Representatives, on the 19th inst., Mr. Boyce, of South Carolina, moved that Captain Semmes, of the Confederate States navy, be invited to a seat on the floor of Congress. The motion was unanimously agreed to."

Both houses of the Confederate Congress have passed, unanimously, resolutions to place all the armies under the exclusive direction of General Lee, and to continue the war with the utmost vigour until the independence of the Confederacy shall have been achieved. The resolutions include a recommendation for the reinstatement of General Johnston.

Mr. Breckenridge (whose portrait appears in page 556), one of the most earnest and able of the Confederate statesmen, is, it is reported, appointed Secretary of War in the place of Mr. Seddon.

THE SAFFRON-HILL MURDER.

ON Monday the Sheriff of London, Alderman Dakin and Alderman Bealey, appointed Wednesday fortnight, the 22nd instant, for carrying into execution the sentence of death passed on the Italian, Polio, at the Central Criminal Court on Friday last. For many years, as is generally known, executions in the Old Bailey have invariably taken place on a Monday morning, and with the demoralizing scenes which precede them on Sunday evenings most people have been long familiar. Monday, too, being a kind of half-holiday with large numbers of the working classes in the metropolis, the crowds at executions have always been greatly swelled in consequence. This was particularly the case at the execution of the pirates, and still more, perhaps, at that of Muller, and on both those occasions a very responsible duty devolved on Colonel Fraser, the City Commissioner of Police, in making the necessary preparations for preserving life and limb, not making the necessary exhibitions of vice and profligacy which took place, amounting to a great public scandal, and disturbing and distressing every one connected with the prison, including the condemned men themselves. The present sheriff, desirous of putting an end to such a state of things in the public interest, have resolved upon changing the day, and hence they have fixed Wednesday for the execution of the condemned convict in Newgate.

HORNBURN'S Tea is choice and strong, moderate in price, and wholesome to use. These advantages have secured for this Tea a general preference. It is sold in packets by 2,380 Agents.—(Advertisement.)

TRIAL FOR BREACH OF PROMISE OF MARRIAGE.

IN the Court of Queen's Bench this week has been tried a case Woodward v. Clarke, being an action for breach of promise of marriage. The defendant pleaded the usual plea, that he did not promise, and that a reasonable time had not elapsed, &c.

Mr. Coleridge, Q.C., and Mr. Gifford were counsel for the plaintiff; Mr. Sergeant Ballantine and Mr. Mandell were counsel for the defendant.

Mr. Coleridge, in stating the case to the jury, said the plaintiff, Miss Emily Woodward, was one of the daughters of the late Mr. John Robert Woodward, a surgeon, formerly in good practice at Worcester. The young lady was about twenty-eight years of age, residing with her mother and the other members of the family at Malvern, where her mother is a churchwarden of one of the churches in that place. The defendant was for some time a captain in the army, but had sold out, and he was about two or three years the plaintiff's elder. He went to India and returned in 1863, and in that year, or in the early part of 1864, he sold his commission. A connexion by marriage existed between the families, the plaintiff's uncle, Colonel Woodward, having married the defendant's sister. Before going to India the plaintiff and defendant were on terms of intimacy, which were renewed on his return, and they became engaged. He was a man of good fortune, position, and character, and everything seemed to promise every happiness from their union. The plaintiff's father, who had since died, gave his consent to the marriage, which it was arranged should take place in the autumn of 1863. During the summer of 1863 the plaintiff's father became dangerously ill from an affection of the heart. He was ill for a considerable time, getting worse every day, and it was during the time that the plaintiff was devoting herself, as an affectionate daughter should, to a sick father that the defendant broke off the marriage, upon the ground that he had misunderstood his feelings towards her, that he never loved her, and that, in short, the engagement must come to an end; but he was afraid there was some other and not so creditable a reason for the defendant's conduct. He thought, however, he should be able to show them that that was not the defendant's reason for breaking off the match. Up to the time of the defendant's breaking his promise and throwing the plaintiff aside, his letters were all she could desire. The correspondence was not long between them, but his letters were very ardent, and couched in language which was very creditable to the person who wrote them and to the lady who received them. The first letter read by the learned counsel commenced, "My dear Emily.—What pleasure it gives me to be able to address you thus, and how happy I feel since our mutual declaration yesterday. I have not asked your father's leave to correspond with me, but I have no doubt he will have no objection to it, as I shall be absent some time; and how delighted I shall be to receive a letter from you I need not tell you. I shall never forget yesterday, and what made it doubly pleasant was that every one seemed so happy." The next letter commenced, "My dearest Emily." They would see by that, that, as was natural, he got warmed in his attachment towards her; and it went on to say, "I arrived here last evening. I was delighted to find a letter from you, and you may be sure I lost no time in reading it." And after some further observations, he went on to say, "Don't believe that you are out of mind as well as out of sight, for your image is before me daily;" and he concluded with, "Your fond and loving William." There were several letters to the same effect during the month of May, and when he was in Ireland during the month of June he wrote to her almost every two or three days, and in one of them he said, "I dreamed about you a few nights ago. I thought we were travelling together some-where. On Emily, I am always thinking of you, and soon, dear Emily, I hope the reality will come." On the 4th of June he wrote,—"It is only a short time longer, Emily, before I shall see you again. How happy I shall be." In a subsequent letter he wrote, "I see my sister-in-law in the boat with me, and then I cannot help thinking that a dearer one than a sister-in-law will shortly be my companion." He was then at the Lakes of Killarney, and it was not to be expected that the beautiful scenery of that district would at all damp the youthful ardour with which he was addressing his lady-love. And here is a thing which is not bad in its way. It was not written to be seen by any one but the plaintiff, and of course I read it under protest. (Laughter.) Speaking of her photograph, he says, "My only hope is that he (the photographer) may succeed in doing you as much justice as he did me. I assure you I have not seen you at the bottom of the lake—(laughter)—and what is more, I have no intention of doing so. (Renewed laughter.) I wish your real dear face had been here. If it had been, I have no doubt we should have caught some salmon last week—(laughter)—for far from frightening them it would have been more likely they would have come up from their beds to see your fair countenance. (Laughter.) Shall I put your carte on the hook, and see if they will come up and make your acquaintance?" (Loud laughter.) This letter continued in that strain, and on the 9th of August he wrote to her, saying, "Don't think Emily dear, you have been out of my mind as well as sight. Your image is ever before me, and I feel so happy after my return, and I look forward to uninterrupted happiness with you." He also says, "I am anxious for your real letter. What a lot we have to talk about, dearest, and what a pleasant time I have to look forward to;" and it is concluded, "Believe me your ever affectionate William." He wrote to her again on August the 19th, 23rd, and 25th, the latter being the last one he wrote before the one of the 9th September, breaking off the engagement he had made. The letter of the 25th of August was as follows:—

"Weymouth, August 25. My dearest Emily,—As expected, I received your letter on Monday morning, but I was not at all satisfied with the account of your father's health. The doctors seem to say he is no worse, still I should like to hear of their being able to say that the worst is passed, and that he is decidedly on the improve. I nevertheless trust that danger is over, and now it is more the weakness caused by his dreadful suffering, and that as soon as he gains a little strength he will get right again. I hope your intended visit to the seaside, although postponed for a short time, will ultimately take place, and it will give me the greatest pleasure to be one of the party. I am sure a short visit to some watering-place, dear Emily, would do you all the good in the world. After the great fatigue and anxiety you have undergone lately, I hope we shall very very soon meet now to talk over and arrange some plans, and I do not doubt but that Fred. will give us the pleasure of his company also. Poor Emily, I am sure you do wait some comfort now—(laughter)—but after all the trouble you have had there may be some sweets in store. Let us only hope they will very soon come. We have heard nothing of Eliza's proposed visit to Belmont. Is she going with you? Do not say anything about writing woeful letters. I am sure it is very good of you to write such long letters as you do, as I am sure after that nursing and watching you have done you must feel anything but disposed for letter writing. Give my kind love to all and believe me, Emily dearest, your ever affectionate William." The next letter to which he had to call their attention, and which was the next in order, was that of September 9, and it was in the following terms:—

"Sept 9th.—My dear Emily,—My mother received your letter this morning and I will answer it myself, although I had hoped to be spared the painful necessity of writing to you direct on a subject that for some time past has given me great uneasiness, for I may say some time, about my error in judgment in having been so very hasty in proposing to you on our very short acquaintance, and before I well knew whether it was real love I then felt for you, or only general esteem and admiration. I feel that marriage is much too serious a thing to be entered upon lightly, and that I am

much, yes, very much, to be blamed, for not having thought more seriously about it before, but I must say that I was so excited on my return home after so long an absence, and was so pleased with the reception I everywhere met with, that I hardly knew what I was about, and acted most thoughtlessly, and, I must confess, most wrongly. In doing as I did I feel I am very much to blame; but immediately I returned from Ireland, I expressed everything to my mother, and asked for advice, and we felt that nothing could possibly be done whilst your poor father was in such a dangerous state of health. That accounts for my late conduct to you, and I can only say that I have twice written to the colonel, and my sister, most minutely describing my feelings to them, and begging them to communicate them to your family, as I thought it would be a much more delicate way of transmitting the information to you than by doing what I am obliged to do now, viz., write to you direct. My mother also wrote to the colonel on the subject, and hoped that he would have let your mother see the contents of her letter. I have often thought and said that I fancy I never should marry, and even mentioned the subject in one of my letters home from India, as I always felt that I was not suited for a married life. And I have also considered about what I never did before, about money matters, and find that with what I have hitherto only found sufficient to enable me to live comfortably as a bachelor, I could not possibly maintain a wife and an establishment in a manner that I should like to do both for her sake and my own. The advice from my friends has been to wait a little and see, but I feel on mature consideration that I am not likely to change the feeling or sentiment which I have here acknowledged to you, and that under these circumstances, however much I am to be blamed for my very hasty and thoughtless conduct, it is better for the future happiness of both of us to consider this most important act, even now, as it is, than to renew our acquaintance with the feelings I now have on the subject. I don't think it likely I shall ever marry, and I hope you will forgive me for the anxiety I may have caused you, and I sincerely trust that at some future day we may meet again with feelings of esteem and friendship—Believe me yours, very sincerely,

"W. D. CLARKE."

The Lord Chief Justice: What is the date of that letter?
Mr. Coleridge: The 9th September, fifteen days after the letter of the 25th August. Enclosed in that letter was a quantity of religious poetry—(laughter)—which he supposed was sent to soften the pain that the letter would cause Miss Woodward; and there was also a text of Scripture from St. John. This was but a poor consolation to this young lady when he had broken off the match. Now, they would not hear from him, either in that court or any where else, any more at anything like true religious feeling; but a man who could build a woman in hand four months, and write such letters as he referred to, to endorse such lines to console her, and who could think he could thereby palliate his heartless cruelty towards her, could not, and he was sure it would not commend him to them as a man of a religious character and uprightness of conduct. He wanted to know what defence the defendant had to put before them in explanation of his conduct. The defendant, so far as he could ascertain, was a man of considerable property, and he had in addition certain expectancies on the death of his mother, who was living in a comfortable position in the county of Somersetshire. But what compensation was he to make to the plaintiff, who he had compelled to come forward in a court of justice and have all these things ripped up before a jury? He had desired to make that compensation which a man could only make who had acted in the abominable manner he had done towards the plaintiff, and beyond what had passed between the learned counsel and the learned counsel who represented the defendant, which was an offer which could not be accepted, nothing had been done by the defendant to prevent the trial of this case. He therefore called upon the jury now to give the plaintiff exemplary damages, which was the only compensation she could now obtain for the unprovoked breach of the most solemn engagement which a man could make with a woman. The learned counsel then called the following evidence:—

Mrs. Penny Woodward, examined by Mr. Giffard, deposed: I am the eldest member of my late father's family. I have known the defendant and his family between twenty and fourteen years. In 1857 I first knew the defendant. I met my sister then met him at my uncle, Colonel Woodward's. There was no great intimacy between them then, and he went and joined his regiment in India. On the 30th March, 1863, he came to my father's house at Worcester, with his sister, and spent the day there. He sat next my sister all that day, and whenever he could, and they met as if they had seen each other before. It was like the renewal of an old friendship. I noticed several things that took place between them that day. He admitted to some pictures that my sister had sent to him through his sister. He came again on the 9th of April with Mrs. Woodward and her three boys. He brought her a book he had promised her. He sat next her, and spoke little to any one else. He paid her almost exclusive attention. On the 11th April he came again, and he paid my sister the same attention. He remained that night, and left the following night. Before going he said he wished to be too late for the train, and I think he would have been if he had not taken him to the station. He did not pack up till the last moment, and he left many things behind. My sister was not well then, and he frequently drove her out. He came afterwards with his unmarried sister and two other ladies. He then sat beside her, and he was glad to see she was better, and appeared to take great interest in her. We all came to the conclusion there was something more than friendship in it. We thought so from the first day. I and my mother and sister visited him at Malvern, and on that occasion he drove my sister from the station, in the evening I particularly noticed their demeanour. He sat near the piano with her and read to her his own verses. On leaving to return home he accompanied her to the station, and he took a brooch, which she broke on the way, to be repaired.

The Lord Chief Justice said he thought they might advance a little faster in the country.

Witness continued: On one evening she mended a glove of his, and he said that would be the best part of it.

Mr. Serjeant Ballantine: The stitches? (Laughter.) There could be no dispute whatever about the stitches.

Lord Chief Justice: Except putting an idle plea on the record. Mr. Serjeant Ballantine: That he is not responsible for, and I am informed by the attorney that at the time the plea was put on the record he had not seen the letters.

The Lord Chief Justice: But he had seen the defendant. Witness continued: He gave her the engaged ring, and it was announced to the family.

The defendant called no witnesses.

Mr. Coleridge having summed up the plaintiff's case,

Mr. Serjeant Ballantine addressed the jury for the defendant in mitigation of damages. Everybody must sympathize with the disappointment that an attractive and accomplished young lady, against whom no imputation whatever rested, must suffer at having an engagement so abruptly terminated, and he thought his learned friend might have been content with confining his observations to the fact which really had occurred, instead of doing an injustice to the defendant by stating that for which there was no foundation—viz., that there was something behind when the defendant felt compelled to break off the engagement. He could assure the jury that the defendant had no motive of any kind whatever for doing so except that which was contained in his letter. He asked them to give him credit for that, and he held no alternative but to take the blame upon his own shoulders. He was instructed not to cast the

shadow of an imputation upon the young lady, whom he admired and respected, and whom he still continued to admire and respect. The young lady was a most accomplished person, younger than the defendant, of great personal attractions, and of unimpeached and unimpeachable character. This young man had come home fresh from India, where the charms of beauty were not to be found equal to those of this country; and like a young soldier coming fresh to this country, he found himself in the house of a friend—he found himself head and ears in love with an accomplished and attractive young lady, long before he had time for reflection. He had no doubt they had most of them felt that soft, sweet madness to which he learned friend had referred, and it was not to be surprised at, under all these circumstances, that a young soldier should have been affected by it. It was not necessary, however, that he should go into the minutiae of this case. His conduct was not to be excused, and he ought to have well considered the matter before he made any advances to the young lady; but he hoped they would put a favourable construction upon his actions, and not too severely punish him for what had been an act of folly on his part by awarding heavy damages against him. He must, however, condemn the introduction of religious verses into a matter of this kind, but they must bear in mind that they were enclosed in his letter to the young lady. It was the act of his mother, and not his; and, generally speaking, young men's minds greatly differed from those of their mothers. (Laughter.) After again referring to the circumstances of the case, he expressed a hope that they would think this a case not requiring very heavy damages.

The Lord Chief Justice, in summing up, said the verdict must pass for the plaintiff. There had been an engagement which had been rather abruptly broken off; and the only question for them to deal with was the amount of damages which, in their judgment, would be an adequate compensation to the plaintiff for the non-fulfilment of the defendant's engagement.

The jury returned a verdict for the plaintiff—damages, £2,000.

AMUSING BREACH OF PROMISE CASE.

At the Sheriff Small Debt Court, Glasgow, an action for breach of promise of marriage, which created considerable merriment, was brought by a young man named John Kerr, a labourer, against Ann Moore, a domestic servant, concluding for £6 9s. 3d., as explained in the following account submitted by the pursuer:—
Ann Moore, Domestic Servant, Paisley.

To JOHN KERR, Labourer, Paisley.

1865.
Jan. 27. To damages and solatium due by you to me in consequence of your having agreed to become my wife, whereby I was induced to get the banns proclaimed in the parish church of Paisley, and also caused me to take a house for you, and pay rent in advance, and was also put to considerable trouble and expenses, your having refused to implement your agreement, whereby my feelings have been very much injured ... £5 0 0
Jan. 6. Paid session clerk's fees for proclamation ... 0 5 0
" Paid for house rent in advance ... 0 6 9
" Paid for refreshments, &c., for company assembled on bottling night, &c. ... 0 7 6
Jan. 7. To one gold half sovereign, taken from me by you, which you pretended to keep for me, but which you now refuse to deliver up ... 0 10 0
£6 9 3

Pursuer's agent stated the grounds on which the claim was made.

Mr. Thomas Campbell, agent for the defender, in a few remarks, stated that the pursuer, being a very modest young man—(a laugh)—his aunt and uncle had taken special interest in him, and had fixed upon this young lady (the defender), who was rather comely—(a laugh)—to negotiate a marriage between the pair. She, however, would have nothing to do with him. (Laughter.) The next time they happened to meet in the street he put his arms round her neck and kissed her. (Laughter.) She indignantly repented the affront, and ordered him to begone. (Continued laughter.) She again sent word to him that she would have nothing to do with him, but he came to her and said he wanted to put in the "cries." The proclamation did take place, although the young lady still objected. However, as he persisted, she attended the "bottling," but she never spoke to him on the occasion. As for the 10s., she never received a farthing from him. All she ever got from him was two or three lozenges one night. (Laughter.)
The Sheriff: Then the half-sovereign is denied?
Mr. Campbell: She never got it.

The pursuer, a quiet, soft-looking young man, was then placed in the witness-box.

By his agent: You have known the defender for some time?—

Yes; I have been going with her for six months.

Did you propose marriage to her?—Yes; but not during the first three months. After I had proposed, she called and left word for me that she was prepared to go ahead. (Laughter.)

You met her after that?—Yes.

Where?—In a public-house. My cousin and uncle were present.

Was there anybody along with Miss Moore?—None that I recollect.

Now, don't be agitated, John. (Laughter.) Was it then and there arranged that you were to get married?—Yes, it was.

When was this?—On the 2nd of January.

When did you see her next?—On the 6th.

Was it arranged about the "cries" that night?—Yes, it was.

And you had actually engaged the "best man"?—Yes. (Laughter.)

She called at your house then?—Yes.

Did her brother call?—Yes, and he accompanied me to put in the cries.

When did you take the house?—On the 9th.

Did you pay the advance rent, 6s. 9d.?—Yes.

And you have entirely lost the month's occupancy?—Yes.

Besides the wife? (Laughter.)

The Sheriff: Perhaps the parties may yet make up matters? (Laughter.)

By defender's agent: When did you hear that the marriage was not to go on? How long after the "bottling" was it?—On the Sabbath night following, I think. She came to me and said she would not go on with it.

During the "bottling" did you comport yourself towards her as a lover?—Yes. (Laughter.)

You spoke to her?—Yes.

Frequently?—Yes.

What about the 10s.?—I was conveying her sister home to the Causeway; she was with me, and I took them into a public-house and gave them a dram. I took out half a sovereign. She said, "Give me this, you will spend it," and she took it and would not give it me back. (Laughter.)

You thought it was all right when she was to be your wife?—Yes. (Laughter.)

But you did not think it right to retain it after her refusal?—No. (Laughter.)

State what took place that Sunday night when she called?—She said she had got a letter from home, and she was not going to go on with the marriage.

By Mr. Campbell: She made up her mind since the New Year

to go on with the marriage. She sent word to my house for my cousin to go down to her.

Did you see her yourself?—Yes, at the railway arches.

When?—On the night of the 2nd January.

Was it not her uncle and aunt who told you that they had seen her, and that she had promised them to marry you?—No, she said it with her own lips.

The defendant, a smart, well-dressed young woman, was then placed in the witness-box, and detailed, with great volubility, her version of the courtship, denying that she ever regarded the pursuer as a lover or said she would marry him. The first time he saw her, he afterwards declared, his heart warmed to her. (Laughter.) About six months after that he came behind her one evening in the street, and threw his arms about her neck. She looked about, stamped her foot, and said, "Begone, sir." (Laughter.) She saw his cousin on one occasion standing at the door, who observed, "You never call now. John is clean daft about you; he is never done talking about you." (Laughter.) On one occasion he pulled out a watch and said he would never have peace unless she became his wife; that his heart was breaking (laughter), and that the watch was a lady's, and he would give it to her if she would say she would marry him. She said no. He told her since she had refused to have him his heart was breaking; he couldn't get sleep. She said, "Your heart's very easily broken then." (Laughter.) On Thursday night his cousin and aunt came to her and said he had taken a house, and asked if she was going to take Johnnie. She replied distinctly she was not going to take him. The aunt said she would be far better to marry the young man; he was just dying about her. (Laughter.) She never had any conversation with him beyond "Yes" or "No." She just said "Yes" to his friends in a joke when they asked if she was going to marry him. She never, on her oath, said "Yes" to him. When he asked her to go to the "bottling" she at length said, "Well, if you are going to have a spree I will have share of it." (Laughter.) She never spoke above half a dozen words to the pursuer. When they accompanied her sister home he pressed her to have a drink of ale, and on the way he purchased a halfpenny worth of lozenges. The only thing she ever got from him was two or three lozenges. She would swear she never got half-a-sovereign from him.

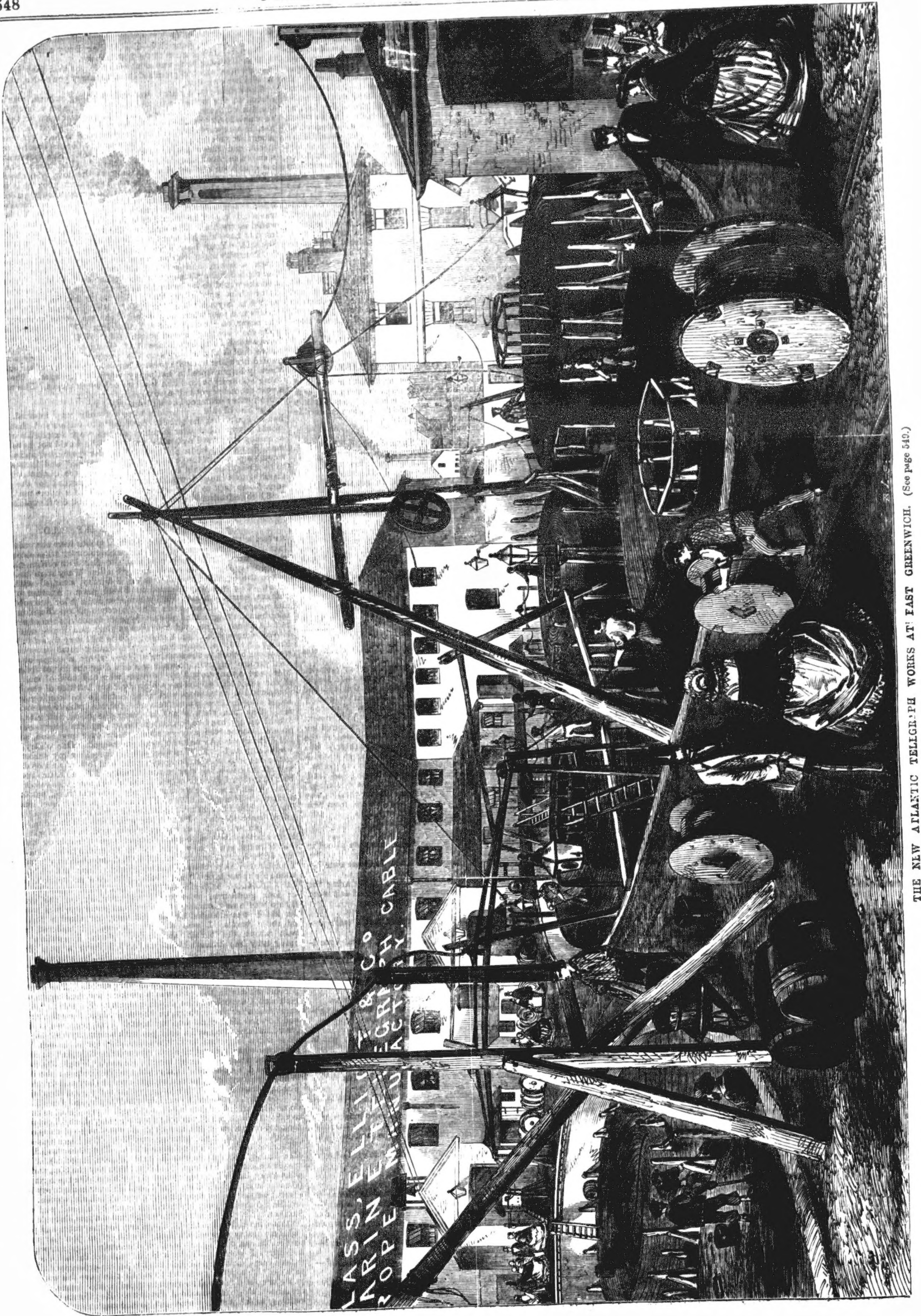
No further evidence having been called for,

The Sheriff said such actions were certainly very unusual. He had no doubt that the girl did give the lad to understand that she would marry him. Her conduct seemed very extraordinary in attending the "bottling" while protesting she would not have the man. He took the house and paid the fees for the "cries" and a considerable portion of the expense of the "bottling," and it was not to be thought he would have done so but on the distinct understanding that the girl would marry him. Deemed for the pursuer, 6s. 9d. for house rent, 6s. 9d. for house rent, and 7s. 6d. for refreshments on "bottling" night, and court expenses.

THE GAMOTTERS AT SHEFFIELD.

AFTER a protracted delay, the Sheffield police have succeeded in taking into custody two of the men who committed the atrocious outrage upon Mr. Burnby, coal agent to Earl Fitzwilliam, named respectively Dennis Carr and Henry Smith. They were brought before the Sheffield magistrates on Saturday, charged with the crime. Carr was apprehended in Birmingham. Another of the ruffians, named Edward Hall, absconded soon after the robbery, and escaped out of the hands of half a dozen police-officers in Birmingham, leaving behind him ample proof to convict him of several serious crimes. The evidence against Carr and Smith was gone into at some length. Mr. Burnby, who is still very ill, said: "On Friday, the 23rd of December, I was returning home between six and seven o'clock in the evening. When within a couple of hundred yards of my own house, I was seized by the throat from behind, and swung round by the man who had hold of me. One of the other men struck me a blow over the left side of the head. I observed a third man, and he appeared to be keeping watch about two or three yards from the persons who were striking me. The man then struck me over the chest and ribs, and I held up my hand to protect my heart, as the blows were so severe. I received a very severe blow over my hand, and it fell. It appeared to be with some instrument. One of my eyes was filled with blood. The man who was pressing my throat said to the one who was striking me, 'Hit him lower,' and he did so, and hit me below the ribs on the left side. I then became insensible; but when I came to myself I was laid on the causeway or footpath. I felt in my pocket to see if my purse was there, but it was also gone. It contained £2 or £3 in silver. A silver lever hunting watch, which I had in my fob, and which was fastened by a leather guard, was also gone. Part of the guard was left round my neck. A gold pin, which I had in my cravat, and in which was set a large amethyst, was also gone. I heard some one coming before I was attacked, and I moved on to the kerbstone to let them pass. The silver hunting watch case, silver dial and plate now produced I can identify as portions of the watch stolen from me. I had the watch for upwards of twenty years, and I have no doubt as to the parts produced belonging to it. I was taken home by three or four gentlemen, who heard me groaning on the ground. There was a new building close by, and some one was working on it. I was attended by Mr. Skinner, for about a fortnight or three weeks. I was a week in bed. I suffered much pain about the throat and body. When I swallow any-thing now my throat hurts me, and I have a pain in my left side near the heart. I cannot plainly articulate yet."

Mr. Skinner, surgeon, said Mr. Burnby was as nearly murdered as it was possible for him to be and yet live. The injury to the heart, produced by the violent blow, was very serious. The most important witness in the case was a working watchmaker, to whom Carr and Carr offered the stolen property. He said: "A very short time after the robbery, on the same night, the prisoner Carr and Edward Hall came into my house. Hall produced a silver lever hunting watch and a gold pin with an amethyst stone. The watch was a large one, as if it was intended for a brooch. Hall asked me what I thought about the watch. I looked at it, and asked him what he wanted for it. He said, 'Would 30s. be too much?' and I said 'No.' Carr laid the pin down on the board. While I was engaged in examining the watch Carr said to me, 'By Christ, be careful, for there's twenty years and a good flogging for it.' Hall asked me what I could do with the pin, and I said I could do nothing with it, and he told me to break it up. Hall asked me to take the name out of the watch while he stayed, and I did so. I took both the number and name out. It was a name of some one in Lincoln, and I think the number was 293. The name was either Wilson or Williams, I am not sure which. The place was Lincoln. (Mr. Burnby: The name was Richard Wilson, Lincoln.) I broke the watch open, and I did not then pay the 30s., and they went away, leaving the watch and pin with me. On the next night (Christmas Eve), Carr, Carr, Smith, and Skinner came to my house several times from between six and seven o'clock and eleven. Carr and Hall came together; then Smith came by himself, and so did Skinner. They were altogether at my house about eleven o'clock. At that time Hall asked me for the money for the watch and pin. I had some money in my hand, and he said, 'Can you pay me for that watch and pin?' I had been at previously to get some money, and when I went out I took Smith was not there. He was in when I came back. I paid Hall the 30s. in the presence of Carr and Skinner. The witness went on to say that he gave the watch back to the men, and it was afterwards restored to him from a garden in the Abbeydale-road, outside of the town. He informed the police, and they took the steps which led to the apprehension of the prisoners. The case was adjourned for corroborative evidence.



THE NEW ATLANTIC TELEGRAPH WORKS AT EAST GREENWICH. (See page 549.)

THE ATLANTIC CABLE

On page 495 we gave a full account of the new Atlantic cable now being received on board the Great Eastern steam ship. As the account was so recently given, we have no occasion to repeat it again. On the present pages will be seen a view of Messrs. Glass and Elliott's works, at East Greenwich, where the cable is manufactured, and the paying away of the same into the vessels appointed to convey it to the Great Eastern. We also give two illustrations of the paying away of the cable into the hold of the latter vessel.

The diagrams which we give are sections of the old cable, which unfortunately parted after the first message had been conveyed across from America and Ireland.

Our other illustration is the ignition of a charge of gunpowder by means of the electric current through the cable, of which many interesting experiments have been made.

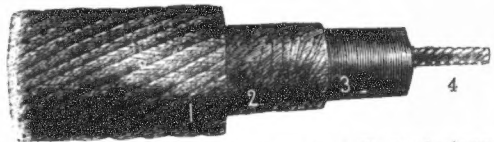
We extract the following from the report laid before the directors on Thursday last:—

"The spinning of the copper strand of the conductor commenced so early as the 18th of April last, and the covering of the same with gutta serena to

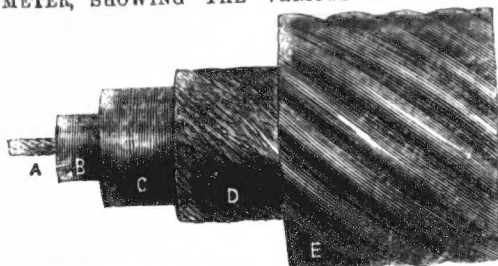


SHIPPING THE ATLANTIC CABLE.

Saturday week the 28th of January, produced 1,025 miles of cable, all of which, after careful and continuous tests, has been found to be electrically in a very satisfactory state, and far superior to any cable hitherto produced. The Great Eastern steamship, from which it has been determined to lay the cable, sailed from Liverpool in possession of the contractors of the 11th of July last, and anchored at Stangate Creek, in the River Mersey, on the 18th of that month since; since which time there have been erected within her three water-tight iron tanks, each of nearly fifty-nine feet in diameter and twenty feet in depth, for the reception of the cable; and her Majesty's Government having lent the hulks Amethyst and Iris for the purpose of conveying to her the cable as from time to time completed at East Greenwich, these two ships have also been furnished each with two large iron tanks, so that the cable may never be out of water from its commencement until its final submersion. The electrical test can thus be made with great nicety, the slightest fault being instantly manifested by the constant access of water to the core of the cable. The Amethyst left Morden Wharf

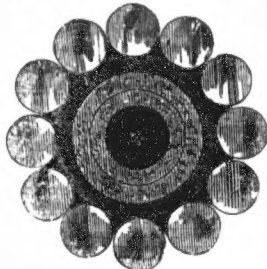


1. Wire, sixteen strands of seven wires each. 2. Six strands of yarn. 3. Gutta serena, three coats. 4. Telegraph wires, seven in number. SMALL CABLE, 11-16ths OF AN INCH IN DIAMETER, SHOWING THE VARIOUS COVERINGS.



A. Telegraph Wires. B. Gutta serena, three coats. C. Gutta serena and Sawdust, two coats. D. Spun Yarn. E. Twelve Strand Wires. LARGE CABLE, 1 1/2 IN DIAMETER

complete what is called the 'core' of the cable commenced at the Wharf-road Works on the 19th of the same month, since which the manufacture of core has been gradually and carefully progressing at those works; but owing to the extensive and important improvements which have had to be effected in the machinery of the contractors at their covering works at Morden Wharf, East Greenwich, with an especial view to the present cable, it was not until the 1st of September last that the earliest covering machine used in applying to the core its external coating of iron and hemp could be started in its work of producing complete cable. Since that time other machines have been added, and the weekly rate of manufacture has been gradually on the increase, until there are now seven covering machines fully employed, the united labours of which have, up to



SECTION OF LARGE CABLE.



IGNITION OF A CHARGE.



SHIPPING THE ATLANTIC CABLE ON BOARD THE GREAT EASTERN

with her first cargo on the 17th of January, and arrived safely at Sheerness on the next morning, and on the 19th the coiling of this cable into the tank in the forehold of the Great Eastern commenced. The Iris is now taking in cable, and will leave for Sheerness in a few days. The directors are assured by the contractors that there is nothing to prevent the entire cable being completed and shipped on board the Great Eastern by the end of May.

OPENING OF PARLIAMENT.

Parliament was opened on Tuesday by royal commission. The following is

THE QUEEN'S SPEECH.

MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN,
We are commanded to assure you that her Majesty has great satisfaction in recurring again to the advice and assistance of her Parliament.
The negotiations in which the Emperor of Austria and the King of Prussia were engaged with the King of Denmark were brought to a conclusion by a treaty of peace; and the communications which her Majesty receives from foreign Powers lead her to entertain a well-founded hope that no renewed disturbance of the peace of Europe is to be apprehended.
The civil war in North America still unhappily continues. Her Majesty remains steadfastly neutral between the contending parties, and would rejoice at a friendly reconciliation between them.

A Japanese Daimio in rebellion against his sovereign infringed the rights accorded by treaty to Great Britain and to certain other Powers; and the Japanese Government having failed to compel him to desist from his lawless proceedings, the diplomatic agents and the naval commanders of Great Britain, France, the Netherlands, and the United States of North America, undertook a combined operation for the purpose of asserting the rights which their respective Governments have obtained by treaty. That operation has been attended with complete success; and the result has afforded security for foreign commerce and additional strength to the Government of Japan, with which the relations of her Majesty are friendly.

Papers on this subject will be laid before you.
Her Majesty regrets that the conflict with some of the native tribes in New Zealand has not yet been brought to a close, but the successful efforts of her Majesty's regular force, supported by those raised in the colony, have led to the submission of some of the insurgents; and those who are still in arms have been informed of the equitable conditions on which their submission would be accepted.

Her Majesty has had great satisfaction in giving her sanction to the meeting of a conference of delegates from her several North American provinces, who, on invitation from her Majesty's Governor-General, assembled at Quebec. Those delegates adopted resolutions having for their object a closer union of those provinces under a central Government. If those resolutions shall be approved by the provincial legislatures, a Bill will be laid before you for carrying this important measure into effect.

Her Majesty rejoices at the general tranquillity of her Indian dominions, but her Majesty regrets that long-continued outrages on the persons and property of subjects of her Majesty, and for which no redress could be had, have rendered it necessary to employ a force to obtain satisfaction for the past and security for the future.

Her Majesty deeply laments the calamity which has recently occasioned great loss of life and property at Calcutta, and at other places in India. Prompt assistance was rendered by the officers of the Government, and generous contributions have been made in various parts of India to relieve the sufferings which have thus been occasioned.

GENTLEMEN OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS,
Her Majesty has directed the estimates for the ensuing year to be laid before you.

They have been prepared with every attention to economy and with due regard to the efficiency of the public service.

MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN,
Her Majesty commands us to inform you that the general condition of the country is satisfactory, and that the revenue realizes its estimated amount. The distress which prevailed in some of the manufacturing districts has greatly abated, and the Act passed for the encouragement of public works in those districts has been attended with useful results.

Ireland during the past year has had its share in the advantage of a good harvest, and trade and manufactures are gradually extending in that part of the kingdom.

Various measures of public usefulness will be submitted for your consideration.

Bills will be laid before you for the re-organization of all the courts of law and equity, with their attendant offices, in a convenient site, a measure which her Majesty trusts will promote economy and despatch in the administration of justice.

The important work for the revision of the Statute Law, already carried to a considerable extent by recent Acts of Parliament, will be completed by a Bill that will be laid before you. Her Majesty hopes that this work may be a step towards the formation of a digest of the law.

Bills will also be submitted for your consideration for the amendment of laws relating to patents for inventions, and for conferring on the county courts an equitable jurisdiction in causes of small amount.

Your assistance will also be invited to give effect to certain recommendations made to the House of Commons, after inquiry directed by that House into the operation of the laws regulating the Bill of the poor.

A Bill will be laid before you founded on the report of the commission for inquiring into public schools; and her Majesty has directed that a commission shall be issued to inquire into endowed and other schools in England, which have not been included in the recent inquiries relating to popular education.

Her Majesty commits with confidence the great interests of the country to your wisdom and care; and she fervently prays that the blessing of Almighty God may attend your councils, and may guide your deliberations to the attainment of the object of her constant solicitude, the welfare and happiness of her people.

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Orphan. The Provoked Husband. A Tale of Mystery. The

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CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK.

ANNIVERSARIES.

W. S. L. B.

2 40 2 59

3 15 3 30

3 47 4 1

4 15 4 33

4 48 5 8

5 17 5 32

5 48 6 6

Evacuation of the Crimea, 1857 ... 5 48 6 6

Moan's Change.—No change this week.

Sunday Lessons.

MORNING.

Gen. 1; St. Mark, 12.

AFTERNOON.

Gen. 2; 2. Cor. 8.

NOTES OF THE WEEK.

ST. VALENTINE.—A curious custom formerly prevailed in the

west of England in connexion with this festival. Three single

young men went out together before daybreak, to catch an owl and

two sparrows. If they were successful, and could bring the birds

uninjured to the inn before the females of the house had risen,

they were rewarded by the hostess with three pots of part in

honour of St. Valentine, and enjoyed the privilege of demanding at

any other inn in the neighbourhood a like gratuity. The owl was

considered an emblem of wisdom; and the two sparrows were sym-

bolic of love; while the part was supposed to represent prosperity.

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

* * * Correspondents finding their questions unanswered, will understand

that we are unable to do so, either from their peculiarity, or that our

correspondents with little trouble could readily obtain the information

themselves.

TO OUR SUBSCRIBERS.—THE PENNY ILLUSTRATED WEEKLY NEWS and

REYNOLDS'S NEWSPAPER sent post-free to any part of the United Kingdom

for three penny postage stamps. Persons wishing to subscribe for a

quarter, so as to receive the two newspapers through the post, may

remit a subscription of 3s. 3d. to Mr. JOHN DICKS at the Office 313,

Strand.

J. J.—Mr. Corquest opened the Grecian in 1851.

A SURGEON.—Asley's Theatre has been three times destroyed by fire.

Use North-east corner of Leicester-square. One died there in 1661.

1671-2; and again on February 24th, 1809. The Lyceum was destroyed

by fire Feb. 16, 1850. The Olympic shared a similar fate March 29, 1849.

The Surrey was first destroyed by fire August 12, 1805. Her Majesty's

Theatre was first destroyed on June 17, 1789.

T. E. (Southwark).—Mr. The Marcella Court sat in Southwark till

1804, and subsequently in Great Scotland-yard, Wiltshire.

R. S.—The farce written by Mr. Charles Dickens was called "The Strange

Guestman," and was produced at the St. James's Theatre in 1839.

1840.

REQUER.—Elizabeth, Queen of Bohemia, daughter of James I. resided at

the north-east corner of Leicester-square. One died there in 1661.

S. P. N.—Mollie Tidens was born in Hambro, in June, 1834.

MURKIN.—The murder of Eliza Davies, the barmaid, took place May 10,

1837. The murderer was not discovered.

DOM QUIXOTE.—Peter Motteux, the translator of "Rabelais" and "Don

Quixote," kept a miscellaneous shop for the sale of books, Japan, and

Chinese wares in Leadenhall-street, where he wrote a poem on tea. He

was found murdered on his birthday, Feb. 19, 1717, in a house of ill-fame

in Star-court, Bishopsgate-row, Temple-bar.

W. T.—Mr. Charles Keen repeatedly played "The Stronger" during his

management of the Princess's Theatre.

LIBERAL.—Brooks's Club-house, St. James's-street, was opened in 1778; but

was originally established in Pall-mall, in 1764, by the Duke of Portland,

O. J. Fox, and others. It was formerly a gaming-house kept by Almack,

and then by Brooks, a wine merchant and money-lender, who left the

club soon after the present one was established, and died in poverty

about 1782.

F. W.—The charabard of St. Catherine Cree, Leadenhall-street, was

formerly noted for the performance of miracle plays, the earliest known

of which refers to St. Catherine.

B. B.—The line "who shall decide when doctors disagree" occurs in

Pope's "Moral Essays," Epist. 3rd, verse 1st.

N. K.—The Daily News was originally brought out at the price of two

pence-halfpenny, on June 1, 1846. Mr. Charles Dickens was its first

editor.

KING'S HEAD.—The Soho Theatre was originally opened by Miss Kelly

in 1840.

CHURCHMAN.—The destruction of the valuable Hebrew library of the

Synagogue of the Jews in Bevis Marks was the work of their own

hands. They feared the writings relative to the Talmudical worship

would fall into the hands of Christians, and become wrongly translated.

They had them conveyed to Mill-end, where they were destroyed in a

fire. We do not know the date.

D. J. O.—We will comply with your request. Send us your address, and we

will answer you through the post, to recommend you a respectable London

lawyer practicing in the Divorce Court. The cost of your suit ought not

to exceed £30.

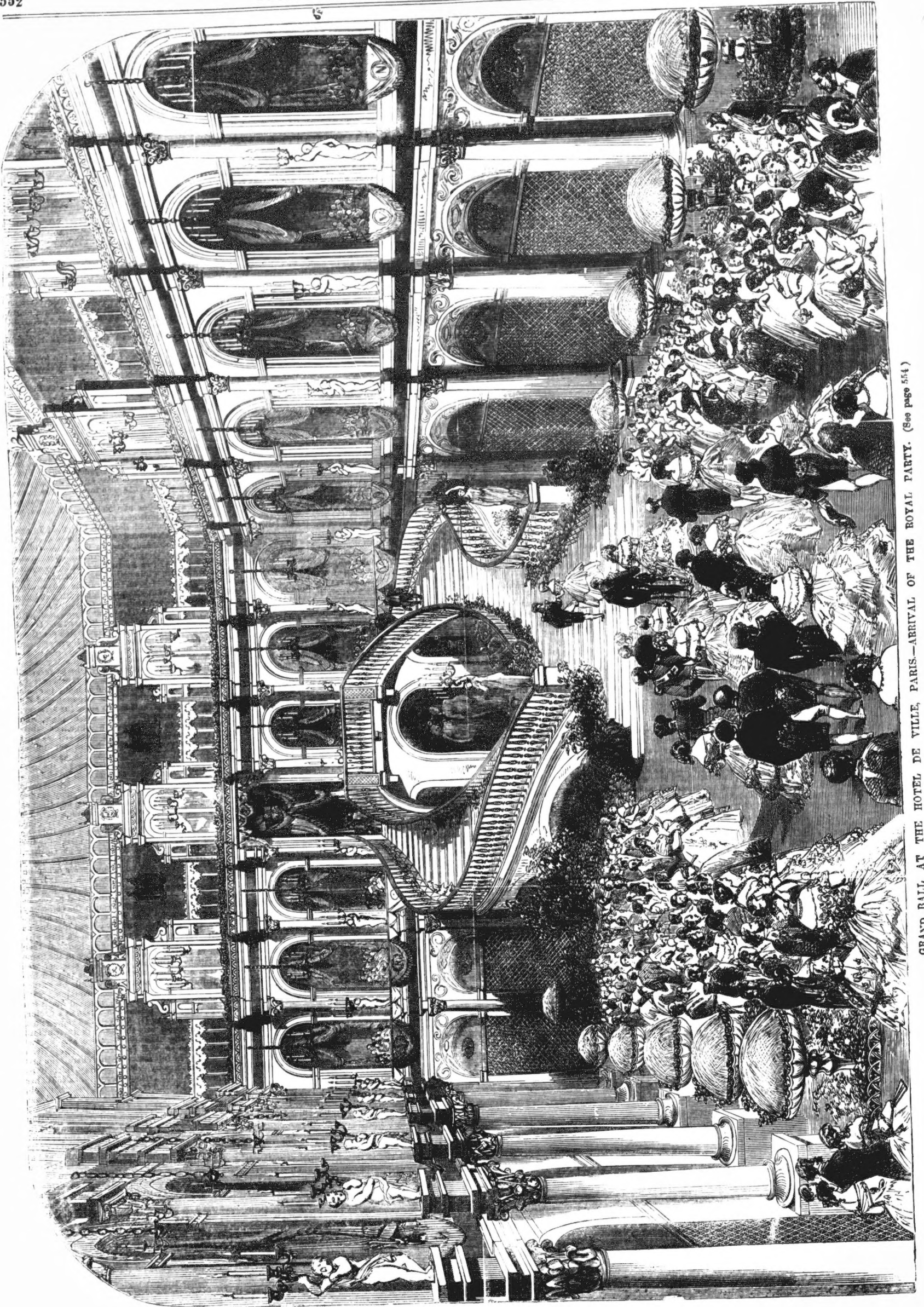
THE PENNY ILLUSTRATED WEEKLY NEWS.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 1865.

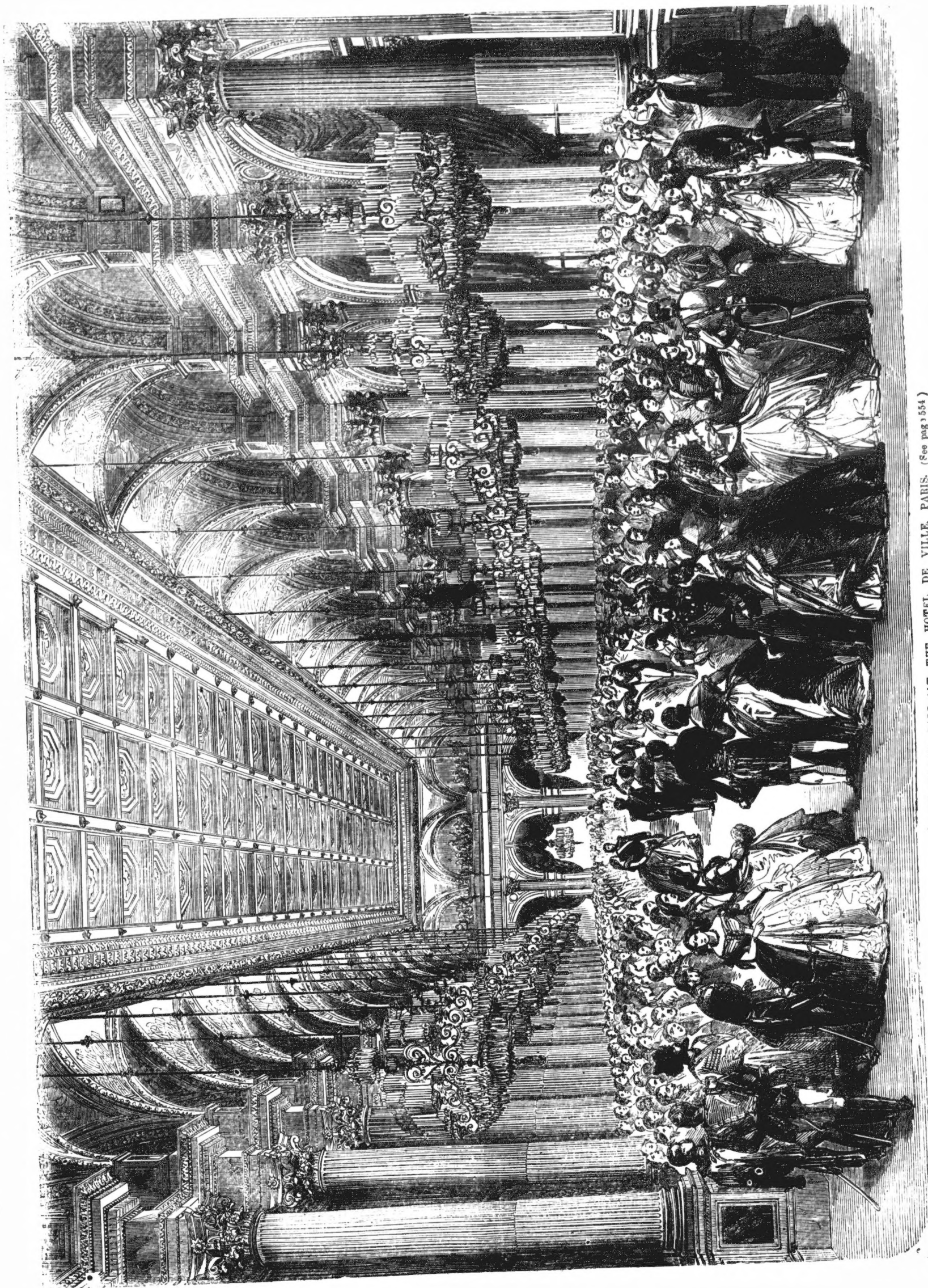
REGISTERED FOR TRANSMISSION ABROAD.

WESTMINSTER is about to lose a distinguished and gallant representative. Sir De Lacy Evans will not again seek the suff

CHEAP PRESENT—A CAPITAL WRITING CLERK for 2s. (or free by post for twenty-eight stamps, fitted with Writing-paper, Envelopes, Pens and Pens, Blotting-book, &c. THE PRIZE OF TWENTY GUINEAS AND SILVER MEDAL was given by the SOCIETY OF ARTS for its utility, durability, and cheapness. 300,000 have already been sold. To all PARKEES and GETTO, 26, Oxford-street, London and all Stationers.—(Advertisement).



GRAND BALL AT THE HOTEL DE VILLE, PARIS.—ARRIVAL OF THE ROYAL PARTY. (See page 554.)



THE GRAND BALL AT THE HOTEL DE VILLE, PARIS. (See pag 554)

Theatricals, Music, etc.

HER MAJESTY'S.—We last week noticed the successful production of the new opera of "Lara" at this establishment, and now proceed to give a slight sketch of the plot, in order that our readers may perceive the alterations made from the original by the French librettists, whose idea of climax, so different from Lord Byron's, we can by no means consider satisfactory. The castle and possessions of the baron are without an heir, young Juan having some years previously left his father and entered the piratical profession. The old nobleman is dead, and his son given up for lost by every one but Lambro (Mr. G. Honey), a stern and faithful servant. Failing Lara's re-appearance, the King gives orders that the Camilla, Countess de Flor (Miss Romer), who was betrothed to her cousin Juan when a child, shall choose a husband from the court nobles, and the fortunate man is to be called Count of Lara. Ezzelin (Mr. Renwick) desires that happiness, but Camilla falls in love with Lara (Mr. Swift), when he returns to home and prosperity with an Arabian follower, Kaled (Miss Louisa Pyne). That picturesque individual being fearfully jealous of Camilla, tells Ezzelin that Lara is the notorious Conrad, the Corsair. Before all the guests Ezzelin defies his rival, and challenges him to subvert his claim to the name and estates of the noble family. Act the third commences with the dream of Lara worked out in action. He is seen as the pirate Conrad, surrounded by lawless followers, and accompanied by Gulnare, otherwise Kaled. The dream ends, and we are taken back to realities. Lara, on waking, is in despair and grief. Gulnare confesses she betrayed him to Ezzelin, and Lara having been solemnly enjoined by a dying message from his father never to resume the family name if he has done anything to dishonour it, feels he can but obey the paternal command, and so renounce his honours for ever. With the avowal of his former buccannery life, and the renunciation of home and home, the opera ends. Conscience then performs a duty Byron never contemplated, and Lara embarks with the page Kaled, otherwise the loving Arabian woman, Gulnare, and Lambro. Ezzelin is left, instead of being murdered by Lara, as Byron insinuates, and operative justice is satisfied. There is a kind of damp firework effect about this climax rather disappointing to an English audience. We see the fire of retribution smouldering for some time, and instead of its bursting into a flame to the annihilation of Lara, he is allowed to make a merit of discretion, and quietly resume his seafaring life. The execution by the principal singers, chorus, and band, leaves hardly a fault to find, which is the more creditable as M. Maillart's music, although neither profound nor greatly elaborated, is perplexing and tantalizing. That Signor Ardihi must have bestowed great time and pains on its production was evident the first night of representation, when there was not a single hitch or falter in the performance; and this, be it remembered, when two *debutantes* were introduced into the cast. Miss Romer, who made her first appearance on the stage was a great "hit." A more successful *debut* is not often witnessed. This lady has a voice of charming quality, somewhat wanting in force certainly, but nicely in tune, well regulated and fluent to a degree. Miss Romer is, we believe, niece to the famous Miss Romer who, in the great "Bonnambula" days, more than thirty years since, played Amina at the Lyceum or English Opera House, while Melibran was sustaining the same part at Drury Lane, and Grial at Her Majesty's Theatre. The character of Kaled is eminently suited to the unpretending yet intense style of Miss Louisa Pyne, who never has shown to greater advantage as an actress, while her singing, from beginning to end, is perfect. The devotion exhibited by Kaled to Lara, in look and action, in the first act, and the pangs of jealousy evinced in the second, are excellently conceived, and realized with happy effect. Mr. Renwick, like Miss Romer, made his first appearance on any stage in M. Maillart's opera. He has a light pleasing baritone, and sings not unskillfully. Considering the difficulties of the music Mr. Swift does really wonders in "Lara." The part is written throughout for a high *tenore robusto*, and demands more than usual force and declamatory power. Mr. Swift has all the force and is not deficient in the art of declamation. Of the other characters, Mr. G. Honey's Lambro is decidedly entitled the most commendation. Mr. Honey sings the comic song, "Be Long the Merry Bells Shall Ring," capably, and acts the part like a thorough comedian. The parts of Camilla, by Miss Oosterall; Helena, by Madame Barrington; Antonio, by Mr. Terrot; and the Marquis by Mr. Forbes, are all to be commended specially. The scenery and dresses are splendid and appropriate, and the vision in the last act is managed with great effect. The English translation of "Lara," by Mr. John Oxenford is—need we say—the work of a poet and a scholar. There is not the least doubt that Lara is destined to obtain a more than ordinary share of public favour, and Mr. Harrison must be complimented on the production.

COVENT GARDEN.—There has been no alteration on the bills of the Royal English Opera Company, nor, we presume, is any necessary, for the theatre still crowds nightly to witness the opera of "Constance," and the pantomime of "Cinderella," in which Donato appears.

DRURY LANE.—"Henry the Eighth," or, rather, the first three acts, has been revived here, and has given Mr. Phelps an opportunity of appearing in one of his finest Shakespearian achievements at the Sadler's Wells Theatre, during his long administration of that suburban temple of the Muses. Mr. Phelps's elocution is supreme, and from this art arises the striking quality of his impersonation of Wolsey. Mr. Walter Lacy's "King Henry the Eighth" is wrought out with the nicest possible skill. Miss Atkinson evidences much talent in the Queen. Mr. Henry Marston gives great effect to the final speech of Buckingham on his way to execution; and Mr. Fitzjames roles it to the top of his bent as the old top, Lord Sandys. Miss Rose Leclercq looks the part of Anne Bullen admirably, and acts with much natural grace and archness; and Mrs. Vandenhoff is excellent as Lady Denny. The quaint old dance introduced into the revels at York-place was the cause of much mirth to the audience, who screamed aloud every time the ladies made a bound, which constitutes one of the steps of the figure. The pantomime has lost none of its attractions, and the theatre is still the recipient of large crowds nightly. The continued success of "Hop o' My Thumb" will, of course, preclude the possibility of giving for the present any of the great Shakespearian dramas. As soon, however, as the pantomime shows the slightest indication of falling from its supremacy one of Shakespear's plays will be given, with Miss Helen Faucit and Mr. Phelps in the principal characters, the managers being determined not to permit the Drury Lane influence to flag for a single instant. The veteran Paul Bedford's benefit, on Thursday morning last, was all that could be desired. His professional and public friends honoured him from all parts. It was a most enthusiastic affair.

SADLER'S WELLS.—The latest production at this establishment has been "The Lost One," in which Miss Marriott and Mr. George Melville sustain the principal characters. Both Miss Marriott and Mr. Edgar are doing their best to afford amusement to their friends at "Merrie" Islington; and certainly the pantomime of "Sir Hugh Myddleton and the Balliff's Daughter of Islington" is calculated to make all "merrie" there. It still continues its prosperous run along the "crystal stream" of popularity.

SACRED HARMONIC SOCIETY.—The first performance of Mendelssohn's "Elijah," given on Friday night, the 4th instant, attracted, as that masterpiece seldom fails to do, an im-

mense audience. Next to the "Messiah," the "Creation," and, perhaps, "Israel in Egypt," "Elijah" is, of all great sacred works, the most familiar to the members of the choir. The solo singers were Miss Louisa Pyne, Mrs. F. Lucas, Miss Whytock, Madame Sainton-Dolby, Messrs. Montem Smith, Carter, O. Henry, Smythson, and Weiss. Miss Louisa Pyne sang splendidly throughout, and was greatest in the greatest scene, "Hear ye Israel." Miss Whytock exhibited a charming voice; her singing of the recitative, "Now Cherith's brook," attracting attention from all parts of the hall. Encores were claimed for the air "O rest in the Lord," sung by Madame Sainton-Dolby, and for the quartet "Cast thy burden upon the Lord," sung by Miss Louisa Pyne, Madame Sainton-Dolby, Messrs. Montem Smith, and O. Henry. "Israel in Egypt" is announced for Friday, Feb. 24.

THE BRITANNIA THEATRE SICK FUND.—The annual general meeting of this excellent society took place on Tuesday, 31st January, in the spacious office-room belonging to Mr. W. B. Cranford, of the Britannia Tavern, High-street, Hoxton. The secretary, Mr. John Parry, rendered a most pleasing and satisfactory account of last year's receipts and disbursements, showing that notwithstanding there had been several recipients who had been relieved during their sickness—one for a period of eight weeks—and a few pounds had also been given to the widow of one of the members, there still was a balance of upwards of £40 duly confirmed by the auditors Mr. W. B. Cranford (treasurer) hailed with delight the progress of the fund, and expressed his hope that the example set by the members of the Britannia Theatre would be followed by many others, thus securing for themselves, by the paltry payment of a few pence per week, a comfortable resource in the hour of sickness. Mr. F. Wilton (the president) fully concurred with the observations of the worthy treasurer, and concluded by saying that the healthy state of their fund was solely attributable to the indefatigable exertions of their secretary, Mr. John Parry, which was fully endorsed by the meeting.

MR. SANTLEY AT BARCELONA.—We must, writes the Barcelona correspondent of the *Presse Theatrale et Musicale* of Paris, alluding to the performance of *Lucia di Lammermoor*, makes a special mention in favour of the baritone Santley. Since his *debut* in the "Trovatore" Mr. Santley has marched on ward from success to success. His is a talent of the highest order, and his voice is so happily timbred that one cannot hear it with indifference. Mr. Santley manages it with an art which one cannot sufficiently admire. Without exaggeration, without *feintes*, by force of expression alone, by the legitimate employment of all the resources of the vocal art, he produces his effects and raises the enthusiasm of his hearers. Mr. Santley was recalled and applauded vociferously after his air (the air of Enrico in the first act), after the dust with *Lucia*—in fine, after the principal scenes of the opera, all of which compliments were eminently merited—*Musical World*.

Sporting.

BETTING AT TATTERSALL'S.

MONDAY.

THE point which chiefly attracted attention was the sudden advance of Chattanooga for the Two Thousand, for which he was backed at lessening prices from the commencement of business at the Victoria Club, where he opened at 100 to 8 taken, until he finally left off at 9 to 1 taken freely at Hyde Park-corner. Indeed, we question whether anything over 100 to 12 could have been obtained. The elevation of Mr. Naylor's horse had a depressing effect upon Broomielaw, against whom 8 to 1 was offered throughout the afternoon. Liddington could not be said to have been knocked out, for one gentleman alone took 10 to 1 to £100 about him, besides which there was no disposition to continue hostilities against the Russell "crack." 1,000 to 80 was booked several times each about Ride, and Archimedes, but at last Lord Glasgow's horse shot a head of Lord Stamford's. Bedminster found himself in the list of quotations at a comparatively short price, 100 to 7 having been taken to some money. The only feature of the Derby betting was the healthy condition of both Broadbalt and Broomielaw, each having been supported to money at his quoted price. 12 to 1 was offered again: The Duke, one bookmaker having £200 to lay at the price. 25 to 1 to a little money was taken about Oppressor, but the same price was easily obtainable. Bambert, who has long threatened to be the "coming horse" for the great Epsom event, exhibited some very healthy symptoms to-day, inasmuch as 1,000 to 30 was accepted several times, and indeed, in one or two instances, 80 to 1 was put down to small amounts. Friday's friends will not let him alone, despite Mr. T. Parr's negative praise of his horse's merits. They are always in the luck, too, of getting the same price about him. At the Victoria Club on Saturday and this morning they made a few quiet investments at 100 to 20, and at the Corner he was again backed to win some £10,000 at the same price. The Liverpool Steeplechase and Chester Cup betting was merely nominal. Closing prices:—

LIVERPOOL STEEPLECHASE.—20 to 1 agst Count A. de Dampierre's Arbury, aged, 11st 8lb (t and ff); 20 to 1 agst Lord Coventry's Emblem, aged, 12st 4lb (t and ff); 20 to 1 agst Mr. T. Hughes's Real Jam, 6 yrs, 10st 6lb (t and ff); 22 to 1 agst Colonel Forster's Tony Lumpkin, aged, 20st 4lb (t); 25 to 1 agst Mr. Grodiffe's Carr, aged, 10st (t); 25 to 1 agst Mr. T. Wadlow's Shropshire, aged (b b), 11st 2lb (t); 25 to 1 agst Mr. Whyte's Freshman, aged, 10st 10lb (t); 30 to 1 agst Mr. Powell's Flycatcher, 6 yrs, 11st 12lb (t); 30 to 1 agst Captain Tempest's Merriman, aged, 10st 12lb (t); 33 to 1 agst Mr. Harvey's Meadow, 6 yrs, 11st 9lb (t); 40 to 1 agst Mr. S. J. Widdell's Creole, 6 yrs, 11st 9lb (t); 1,000 to 25 agst Lord Seltion's Market Gardener, aged, 10st (t).

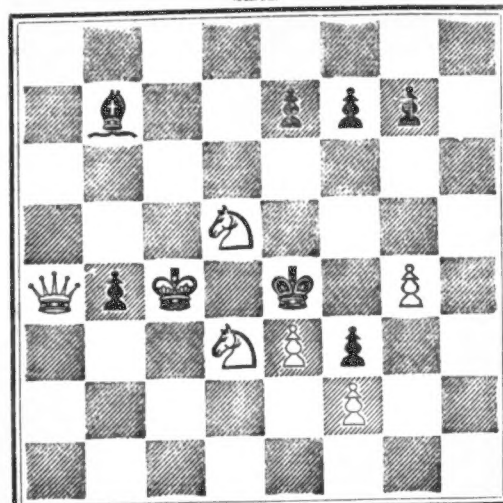
TWO THOUSAND.—8 to 1 agst Mr. H. Chaplin's Broomielaw (t); 9 to 1 agst Mr. Naylor's Chattanooga (t); 9 to 1 agst Mr. Merry's Zambesi (t); 10 to 1 agst Mr. Merry's Liddington (t); 12 to 1 agst Lord Glasgow's Rifle (t); 100 to 8 agst Lord Stamford's Archimedes (t); 100 to 7 agst Sir Joseph Hawley's Bedminster (t); 20 to 1 agst Duke of Beaufort's Kestrel (t).

CHESTER CUP.—20 to 1 agst Mr. J. B. M. Lord's Barcourt, 4 yrs, 6st 10lb (t and ff); 33 to 1 agst Mr. O. Smith's Lion, 3 yrs, 6st 2lb (t); 33 to 1 agst Mr. Barber's Clown, 4 yrs, 7st 6lb (t); 33 to 1 agst Mr. J. B. Morris's Balham, aged, 6st 8lb (t); 33 to 1 agst Marquis of Hastings's Ackworth, 4 yrs, 7st 12lb (t); 50 to 1 agst Mr. Fother's La Touques, 5 yrs, 8st 6lb (t).

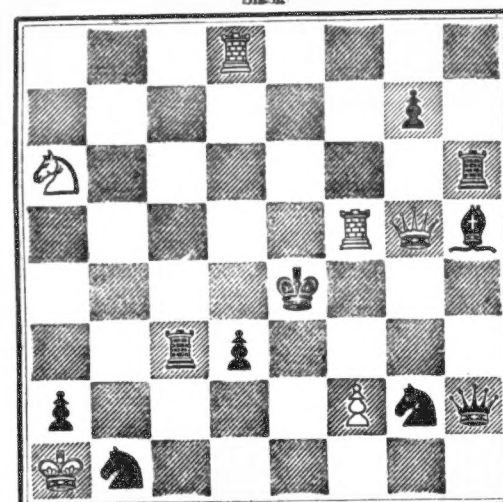
DERBY.—11 to 2 agst Mr. Merry's Liddington (t); 9 to 1 agst Mr. H. Chaplin's Broadbalt (t); 12 to 1 agst the Marquis of Hastings's The Duke (ff); 100 to 6 agst Sir J. Hawley's Bedminster (t and ff); 18 to 1 agst Mr. Naylor's Chattanooga (t); 20 to 1 agst Lord Stamford's Archimedes (t); 22 to 1 agst Mr. H. Chaplin's Broomielaw (t); 25 to 1 agst Lord Glasgow's Rifle (t); 25 to 1 agst Mr. Mackenzie's Oppressor (t); 1,000 to 30 agst Mr. Merry's Zambesi (t); 40 to 1 agst Mr. Wadlow's Christmas Carol (t); 40 to 1 agst Mr. Spencer's Longdown (t); 10,000 to 200 agst Mr. T. Parr's Friday (t); 1,000 to 15 agst Mr. Howes's Farewell (t).

Chess.

PROBLEM No. 238.—By A. D. L. Black.

White.
White to move, and mate in three moves.

PROBLEM No. 239.—By DR. BAYER.* Black.

White.
White to move, and mate in five moves.

Game between A. Kewpe, Esq., and another amateur.

- | White.
Amateur. | Black.
Mr. Kewpe. |
|----------------------|------------------------|
| 1. P to K 4 | 1. P to K 4 |
| 2. P to K B 4 | 2. P takes P |
| 3. Kt to K B 3 | 3. P to K Kt 4 |
| 4. B to B 4 | 4. B to Kt 2 |
| 5. Castles | 5. P to Q 3 |
| 6. P to Q B 3 | 6. P to K R 3 |
| 7. P to Q 4 | 7. B to K 3 (a) |
| 8. Kt to Q R 3 (b) | 8. P to Q R 3 |
| 9. P to K R 4 | 9. P to K Kt 5 |
| 10. Kt to K R 2 | 10. P to K B 6 |
| 11. P takes P | 11. Q takes R P |
| 12. B takes B | 12. P takes B |
| 13. P takes P | 13. P to K R 4 |
| 14. Q to K B 3 | 14. P takes P |
| 15. Kt takes P | 15. Kt to K B 3 |
| 16. Kt takes Kt (ch) | 16. B takes Kt |
| 17. R to B 2 | 17. P to Q 2 |
| 18. B to B 4 | 18. Castles (Q R) |
| 19. B to Kt 3 | 19. Q R to K Kt square |

White resigns.

(a) This old-fashioned defence is, in our opinion, very inferior to either 7. Kt to Q B 3, 7. Kt to Q 2, or 7. Q to K 2.
(b) White neglects to take advantage of his opponent's error. He ought rather to have taken Bishop with Bishop, and then played Q to Kt 3.

[The terminating moves of this game are well played by Black.]
[*From the "Chess-Player's Magazine."]

GRAND BALL AT THE HOTEL DE VILLE, PARIS.

THE present season at Paris has been one of great brilliancy in the fashionable world. The balls and re-unions have been numerous attended, and the dresses magnificent. At the Tuilleries, the Hotel de Ville, the residences of the various ambassadors, all in turn have opened their wide saloons to the gay dance.

On pages 552 and 553 we give two large illustrations of the recent grand ball at the Hotel de Ville. One of the illustrations is that of the staircase and the reception of the royal party; the other the ball-room, or Grand Salle.

The Hotel de Ville was commenced in 1549, but not finished till 1605. It has a singular uncouth appearance from the front, with two side pavilions higher than the edifice, and two gates leading to the quadrangle, in which there is a bronze statue of Louis XIV. It comprises some fine apartments, particularly the one shown in our illustration, at one of the windows of which Lafayette, in 1830 introduced Louis Philippe to the populace as the best of Republicans. The present Emperor has had many alterations and improvements carried out, and also great ornaments in the various saloons.

We recommend our readers who require any Christmas Amusements or Presents to inspect the stock of Electrical, Galvanic, and Chemical Apparatus at Mr. Faulner's Laboratory, 40, Endell-street. We draw special attention to the newly-invented diagnostic Electric Coil, for giving shocks, and for the cure of various diseases, used without battery or acid; also to the brilliant light made by burning Magnetised Wire, which is now sold at 6d per foot; and to the Magnetic Electric Engine, a beautiful piece of apparatus, price 25s to 30s.—[Advertisement.]

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**POLICE COURTS
MANSION HOUSE**

HOW STREET

OVERKINWELL.

WIFE OF A GERMANYMAN CHARGED WITH BEING

MARYLEBONE

WORSHIP STREET

COMFORTABLE—William Tribble 38 described an

SOUTHWARK

LAMBETH

GREENWICH

QUEEN WICH.

STRANGE CHARGE OF ROBBERY.—Christian Kætz, aged 27, a Dane, was charged with carrying a pair of trousers from the shop of Mr. Adolph Blackshear, late Greenwich. From the statement of Mr. Kætz taken from documents produced, it appears that in the year 1863, being then eleven years of age, he enlisted in the Danish army. He served during the whole of the Crimean campaign, and on the 22d July last, ten years' service having expired, he claimed and obtained his discharge. He had applied to the Danish consul for assistance to enable him to return to his country, having been discharged without a pension nor temporary allowance, but had been refused. He had also been refused relief by the parochial officers to whom he had applied, and being anxious to reach Dover, and thence by some means to cross over to France, where his home overlaid, he had applied first at this court for assistance. Having been referred back to the Danish consul, the prisoner left the court expressing his determination to steal something in order to get locked up, and proceeding to the police-station adjoining the court, informed the constable of reserve duty what he intended doing. He then crossed the road and possessed himself of the trousers, when he was taken into custody. In answer to the magistrate, the prisoner said he had no money, and had been in London for less than 15s.; but if he had the means of procuring 100 rix dollars, he did go to Odise, he could perhaps obtain another passport on the Danish consul to proceed to his home. Mr. Hall asked whether, if so, the Danish consul would receive him home. The prisoner replied, "No, because I am a foreigner, being a foreigner, I had no right to call on the Danish consul, I might as well go to a foreign consul." His counsel asked whether he had received any provision since leaving his mother's house. He (Mr. Tredwell) provided him with the means of reaching his home. He (Mr. Tredwell) said that he should be justified in providing out of the little he had procured at his original trial in the prison-house sufficient to pay his passage to Hamburg, but he would give him some temporary relief, and a letter like to the Danish consul in London, at the same time offering his discharge from custody, we heard not think he had any intention of returning. The prisoner received the letter, and left the court to be well upon the Danish coast.

OPENING OF THE CANADIAN PARLIAMENT.

THE Canadian parliament assembled at Quebec, on January 20th. The governor's message states that a Bill to arm the executive with further powers to deal with political refugees who abuse the Canadian asylum, by committing outrages on the border, will be presented to parliament. Regarding the Confederation of the provinces, he says that circumstances afford the opportunity not only for the settlement of the question of provincial republics, but also for the simultaneous creation of a new nationality. A plan for the constitution of the Confederation will be presented to the parliament, which plan has been approved and sanctioned by the Imperial Government.

The Toronto court has declared Barleigh, the Late Erie raider, guilty of robbery, and that he must be given up, under the Extradition Treaty. His counsel has applied for a writ of *habeas corpus*.

We herewith give an engraving of the Parliament House, Quebec. The following account of the city will, perhaps, be interesting at the present time, now that so much attention is being paid to the subject of the British possessions in America.

Quebec is the principal seaport and city of Canada, and the capital of the British possessions of North America. It is situated on the north-west bank of the St. Lawrence.

Quebec is very strongly fortified, and may, in fact, be called the Gibraltar of America. The citadel over Cape Diamond includes an area of about forty acres; and is formidable, alike from its position and its works, constructed on a gigantic scale, and on the most approved principles. The line of the fortifications, which stretches nearly across the peninsula on the west, and runs along a ridge between the upper and lower towns, is intersected by five gates, and has an inner circuit of about 2½ miles. Beyond the ramparts, on the west, are the extensive suburbs of St. Roch, St. John, and St. Louis.

The public buildings are substantial, rather than elegant. The Chateau St. Louis, the residence of the governor-general, a large, plain building, on a height overlooking the river, was burnt down early in 1855. The Roman Catholic Cathedral of Notre Dame, the Protestant cathedral, with sundry other Catholic and Protestant churches; the old Episcopal palace, now the seat of the Canadian legislature; the quadrangular edifice formerly the college of the Jesuits, but now a barrack, in the upper town; with the Quebec bank; the exchange reading-room, well furnished with American, British, and other newspapers and periodical publications; and the Government warehouses, in the lower town, comprise the principal public buildings.

There are three nunneries, one of which, the Hotel de Dieu, is a very valuable hospital. The nuns are here, in fact, a most useful class of persons, acting as nurses to the sick admitted within these establishments, and as instructresses of young girls.

The climate, though on the whole good and healthy, is in extremes. In summer the heat is equal to that of Naples, while the cold of winter is not inferior to that of Moscow. This inequality occasions a corresponding difference in the modes of life during the different seasons of the year. In winter travelling is carried on by means of sledges and carriages, in the same way as in Russia. The first view of Quebec in sailing up the St. Lawrence is striking in the extreme; and there is a magnificent prospect from the citadel on Cape Diamond.

The majority of the population being of French extraction, the French language, which is still spoken in some of the best circles with great propriety, and the Roman Catholic religion, predominate. Society is here more polished and refined than in any other town of British America; and the higher provincial gentry of French descent are distinguished by the courteousness and urbanity of their manner. But, in consequence, perhaps, of the seductive example of the mimic court established amongst them, all classes are much given to show, and generally indulge in expenses beyond their means. Hence Quebec is very expensive; and owing to the jealousies that exist, and the violence of provincial politics, society is split into different parties. Great attention is, also, paid to etiquette;



J. C. BRECKENRIDGE, U.S. (See page 546.)

and those admitted to the governor-general's parties rarely associate with those who do not enjoy that honour.

Quebec, as every one knows, was taken from the French in 1759. A British army, under General Wolfe, having effected a landing near the city, attacked and defeated the French army under Montcalm, on the heights of Abraham, to the west of the town. Wolfe fell in the moment of victory; and Montcalm, who was also mortally wounded in the action, expired soon after. The French, panic-struck by the loss of the battle and the death of their commander-in-chief, surrendered the city before even a single battery had been opened against it. A monument was erected, under the patronage of Lord Dalhousie, in the gardens of the chateau, inscribed to the "Immortal memory of Wolfe and Montcalm."

FREE ACTION IN THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND.

The following petition to the House of Commons has been drawn up for signatures:—

1. That the parochial system is designed to promote the spiritual well-being of the whole people, whose interests are the only valid ground for maintaining it.
2. That in many parishes or districts the parochial system is practically nullified by the exclusion of the great majority of the people from their own church.
3. That the clergyman of a parish or district church, especially if supported by pew rents (which may be diminished if a new church be erected), and the congregation of such church who have all their spiritual wants supplied, may not feel concerned to take

active measures to supply the means of public worship for the unchristianized masses of the parish or district.

4. That in most populous places parochial divisions are ignored by persons attending and being allowed to take pews in any church they like best.

5. That Christians of other communions are under no prohibition from preaching the Gospel and opening places of worship.

6. That if similar liberty, under due regulations, were enjoyed by churchmen, many neglected districts would be provided with pastoral superintendence, churches built, and the Church of England greatly extended.

7. That the injury to our common religion, resulting from the irresponsible power of preventing any desired expansion of church efforts, greatly outweighs the advantages of the present state of the law.

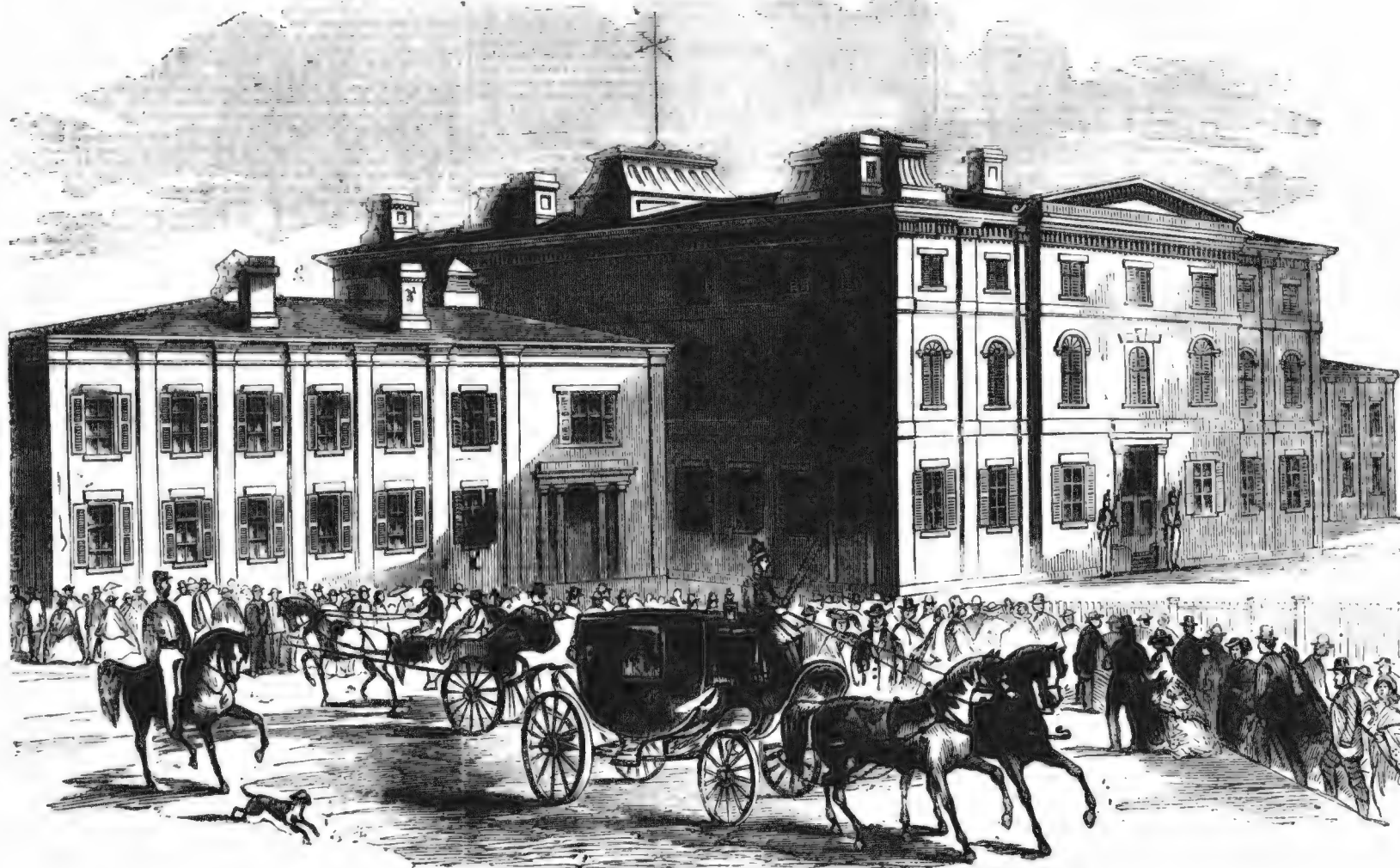
8. That this principle has been already adopted by parliament in allowing English services to be provided in Wales when the incumbent of a parish may be unable or unwilling to provide them himself.

9. Your petitioners, therefore, pray that your honourable house will be pleased to consider and adopt such measures as your wisdom may suggest for removing the obstacles which now prevent the preaching of the Gospel to the mass of the people of this country.

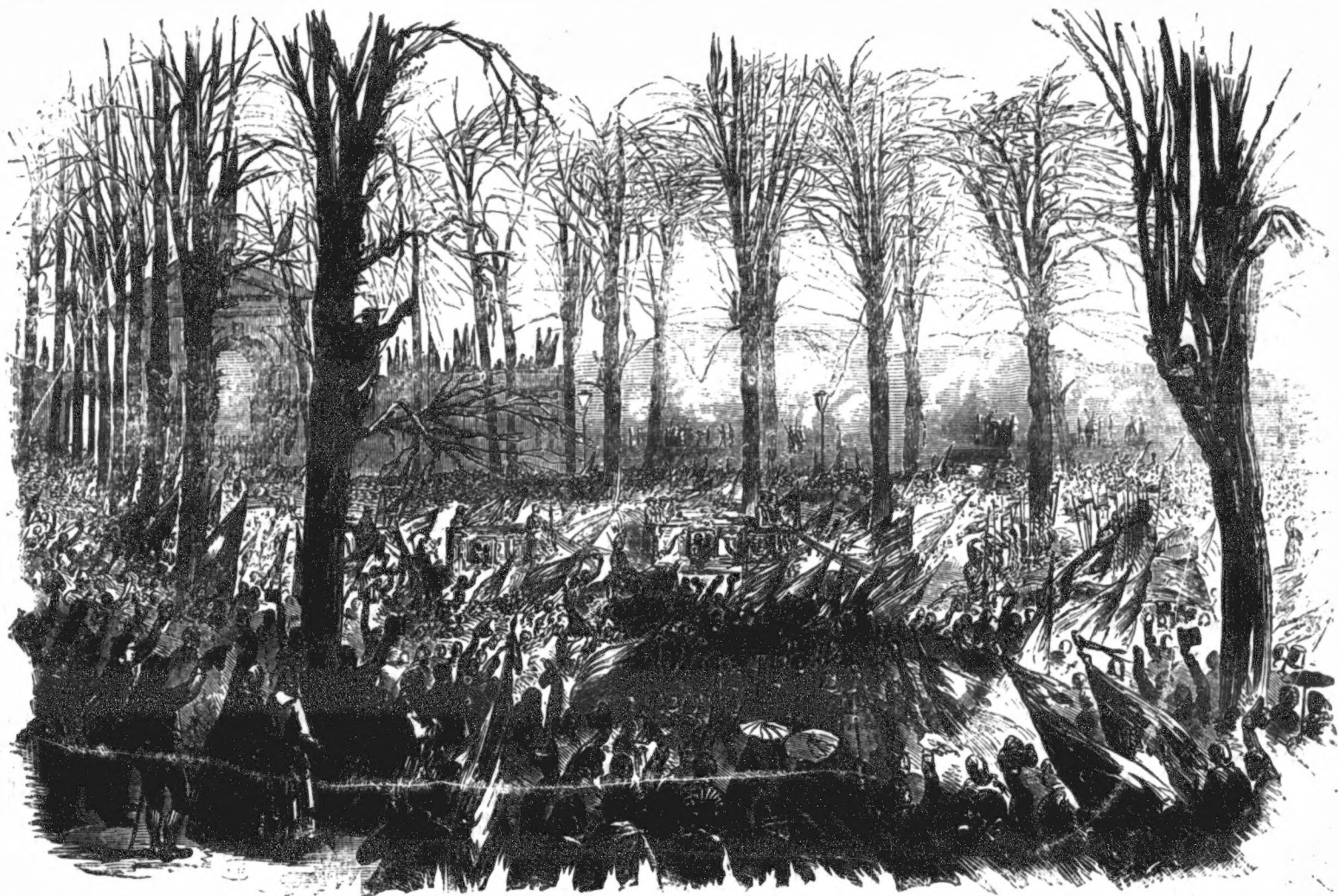
Copies of the above can be had on application to Messrs Beadle and Co., 44, Paternoster-row, London.

A REAL ROMANCE OF THE HAREM.—A Constantinople letter says:—"Rare as are conversions from Muhammadanism to Christianity, or from the latter to Islam, yet fewer still are the instances in which the proselytes to either faith are women. One of these very exceptional cases has, however, just occurred, in which the neophyte is a young Belgian girl named Cordelier—the niece of the proprietress of a well-known English shop in Pera—who, despite all the popular errors as to the status of women in the Prophet's paradise, has risked everything, and gone bodily over to the faith of Mecca, for love of a seductive young boy. For some months past she has been in the habit of going frequently to harems in Stamboul to take millinery orders, and in the course of these visits appears to have made the acquaintance of the young effendi in question. The acquaintance was entirely unknown to her aunt, who, on her sudden disappearance on Sunday week, remained for several hours in anxious ignorance of her whereabouts. Late in the evening, however, a note from the fair runaway put an end to her relative's suspense by announcing the step she had taken, and firmly stating her determination to embrace her lover's faith in spite of every opposition. A personal interview on the following day—at the Turkish house near the Atbazir, where she had taken sanctuary—failed to shake this resolution, and accordingly on Tuesday she went before the cad, and made the first of the necessary declarations which precede formal admission into the pale of Islam. The Belgian legion then interfered, and later in the week the young convert—who is about nineteen years of age, and possesses the buxom personal attractions which are dear to the eyes of Eastern connoisseurs—was brought before the Minister of Foreign Affairs, in company with her national dragoman. Here again she declared her resolute purpose to abjure Christianity, in spite of all that either A'ali Pasha or the dragoman could do to urge reflection before finally committing herself to so grave a step. In view of this obstinacy, the Belgian authorities now deny her right to make the change, on the ground of non-age; and, as the Porte temporarily accedes to the objection, her final reception into Muhammadanism is suspended until the receipt from Brussels of specific proof of her age. The affair has been the nine days' talk of Pera."

ANOTHER STEAMER, the Earl Percy, on her voyage from Hamburg to Newcastle, has been wrecked at the mouth of the Tyne, close to the spot where the Stanley went on shore in December last, with so distressing results. The crew and passengers of the Earl Percy, fortunately, were saved; but the vessel appears to be a total loss.



THE PARLIAMENT HOUSE AT QUEBEC.



ARRIVAL OF VICTOR EMANUEL AT FLORENCE.

ARRIVAL OF KING VICTOR EMMANUEL AT FLORENCE.

KING VICTOR EMMANUEL arrived at Florence on Friday, the 3rd. The city was decorated with flags.

A very large number of persons thronged the King's line of route to the palace, and enthusiastically cheered his Majesty. The National Guard alone were under arms. Shouts were raised of "Viva il Re Galantuomo." On reaching the palace the King came out on the balcony, in response to the acclamations of the people.

We give an illustration of the King's reception after passing through the gates of the city. Florence is enclosed by an old wall,

about five miles in circuit, flanked by towers and pierced by seven gates. It stands in a rich, well-wooded, well-cultivated and beautiful valley, encircled by the Apennines. The River Arno intersects it, and the communication between the two sides of the city is maintained by means of four bridges.

Florence bears the aspect of a city filled with nobles and their domestics—a city of bridges, churches, and palaces. Every building has a superb and architectural form. Each angle of a street presents an architectural view, fit to be drawn for a scene in a theatre. Many of the houses are palaces; and a palace in Florence is a magnificent pile, venerable from its antiquity, of a square and bulky form, with a plain front, extend-

ing from two to three hundred feet, built of huge dark grey stones, in a massive, gloomy, and impressive style. The roof is flat, with a deep cornice, and bold, projected soffits, which gives a grand, square, and magnificent appearance to the edifice. The chimneys are grouped into stacks, the tops of which, increasing in bulk as they rise in height, resemble a crown. Many of these palaces are fitted up with great magnificence, and some of them contain valuable galleries of pictures, that are mostly open to the public. The streets, though in parts narrow, winding, and singular, are mostly wide and straight; and they are admirably paved, after the manner of the old Roman roads, with angular blocks of trap, or sandstone. The houses generally are substantial, more so than those of Rome.

Literature.

CHRISTMAS EVE.

A STORY OF THE AMERICAN WAR.

Warfare and deep, like royal miniver, the snow lay on the lonely hills; bright and solemn the wondrous December sky poured its blue rain of icy light into the dimpled hollows of the leafless woods. On the dazzling slope, a solid grey stone mansion caught the level gold of the afternoon sun, its copings hung with trails of glossy English ivy, while along its spacious corridors, and quaint turnings, purple and crimson shadows, cast by oriel windows of stained glass, crept all day, with noiseless feet.

Amber Wyndham sat before the fire in the sunny drawing-room, a slight woman, with dark brown eyes, and bronze-tinted hair, growing low on her forehead—a woman you would scarce have called beautiful, yet whose face haunted you like a dream. And Charles Aylesford, standing opposite, with his eyes drinking in the mesmeric light of her glance, felt that he could willingly have died for this frail thing, whom he might have lifted in his arms like a child.

"Amber, you shall answer me!" he said, almost passionately, in the depth of his strong, stormy emotion. "I have loved you better than my life, and I will know my fate."

She looked at him silently, with her hands pressed so tightly on her heart that the opal ring on her finger cut into the tender flesh.

"Tell me that you will be my wife, dear love—give me but a shred of hope to cling to, and—"

He stopped abruptly, reading his destiny in her eyes.

"Then you do not love me, Amber?"

She burst into a sobbing cry.

"Heaven knows how long I have loved you, Charles," she answered, striving to articulate plainly, in spite of the warring emotions that racked her breast; "heaven alone knows how truly—how vainly; but—"

"Then, Amber," he pleaded, stooping to take the cold, nerveless hand in his, "why do you keep me longer in suspense? Surely, you cannot doubt my affection?"

"You did not hear me through," she resumed, speaking as if every word out to her heart, slowly and yet distinctly; "I cannot marry you—I cannot, Charles Aylesford!"

"I will not press you now, Amber," urged the young man. "I will wait, in undoubting patience, as Jacob waited for Rachel, even should my term of probation endure for twice seven years. Speak to me, Amber!"

"Yes—no—I cannot tell," she stammered, as if in the troubled intricacies of a dream. Then, commanding herself with a visible effort, she spoke in clear, distinct syllables: "Charles, you must go away from here. I have told you that I cannot marry you—that should suffice. I don't know why I have not spoken these parting words long ago; perhaps it was that I was a trembling, shrinking

coward, and had not the courage. Hush! do not interrupt me. Your heart may break—mine was broken long ago. Now leave me. I cannot endure your pity or your reproach!"

He obeyed her, without a word of protest; there was something in the agonized thrill of her accents that admitted of no appeal. He went out into the vivid December sunshine, like one who has been stunned by a sudden blow—blind to the aureole glow, deaf to the silvery tinkling of the icicle-fringed woods—only knowing that a dreadful wound had been dealt to his soul, true heart, and by Amber Wyndham's hand!

Yet Captain Aylesford was no coward, to linger aimlessly beside the funeral pyre of a lost love; he returned to the path of everyday duty, like a brave self-reliant man as he was, keeping his sorrows close within his own heart, and maintaining an outward composure which is, perhaps, the most difficult part of all to assume under like circumstances.

"Just too late! Oh, Captain—Captain!"

Seth Pollard checked his huge, rawboned horse at the entrance of the little open glade where the dead and dying were strewn upon the trampled ground, and the broken edge of the leafless woods beyond bore silent witness which way the bold band of guerrillas had departed.

Captain Aylesford rode into the little clearing, and looked keenly around.

"It was no fault of ours, Seth; we used every endeavour to reach the ground in time. They have been wise enough to make good their retreat, and with no bad show of prisoners, either. Well, it will be our turn next. These poor fellows are all gone, I suppose?"

"Pretty much, I calculate," said sturdy Seth, looking about him with the nonchalance of one to whom long habit had rendered these ghastly scenes a species of second nature. "Guess they're all Pennsylvania men, from the outposts, and new recruits mostly. Some carelessness, most likely; but it's rather a rough way o' teachin' 'em to keep their eyes about 'em."

"Detail a sufficient number of the men, and see that they are decently buried, Seth," said Captain Aylesford, dismounting. "Stay—here is one poor fellow alive; perhaps something may be done for him."

Seth shook his shaggy head.

"He's a dead man, Captain—or as good as one. Might as well let him alone."

But Captain Aylesford's nature was cast in a different mould from the gigantic private's. He knelt down and raised the dying man to a sitting posture, resting the drooping, nerveless head against his arm, with a gentleness of touch that no woman could have excelled.

It was a very handsome face, with jetty, curling hair overshadowing the forehead, and long, black lashes fringing the heavy lids. And just as Aylesford was stooping to catch one or two incoherent attempts at speech, a red gush of blood poured from the mouth, and the dark, watery eyes grew dim for ever.

"Dead, poor fellow!" said Captain Aylesford, laying down the corpse. "Well, it is only one more incident in the tale of war. Ride

on, men, and report at headquarters—I will follow immediately. Seth, I leave these dead bodies in your care."

"All right, Captain," said Seth, indifferently.

He stood looking after the vanishing body of cavalry with imperious self-possession.

"Though, of course," he added, mentally, "I'd considerable rather ride on to camp than stay here to play grave-digger and undertaker. I just wish the time would come for us to be even with these hide-and-seek rascals, that dodge in and out of the woods like so many will-o'-the-wisps! Come, boys," he ejaculated, with some asperity, to the men who had been detailed to assist him in his disagreeable duty, and who were amusing themselves by examining the adjacent woods, and conjecturing how the surprise had been accomplished, "don't stand starin' there, but lend a hand as quick as possible. I rather guess, from what the Captain let fall, that the quicker we're out o' this old trap of a swamp, the better it will be for us. Spry, now!"

The stars were yet shining, although the crimson of early winter dawn touched the horizon, and the camp was all astir with a hurried, noiseless bustle of preparation, for the long-anticipated summons had come, when Private Seth Pollard came to the spot where Captain Aylesford sat on his horse, in the sickly gleam of the dying fire.

"Cap'n, are we goin' into action?"

"I hope so, Seth."

"And we'll have a pretty spy time on't, I calculate."

"Probably we shall."

"Well—Cap'n—if I might make so bold—"

"What is it, Seth?" said Aylesford, looking kindly down at the private.

"Cap'n, you know the folks at Wyndhamville, and if—if anything should happen, you see, sir, would you mind writin' a line or so to my old mother?"

"I would do much more than that for you, Seth," Aylesford answered, grasping the hand hard.

For the sturdy son of Anat, whose warm heart nestled under a forbidding exterior, like a moonlight-tinted pearl in a rugged oyster-shell, had been dreaming uneasily in the brief slumber he had snatched, after picket duty, of the old wood-coloured house under the grey rocks, where a white-haired woman prayed, without ceasing, for her soldier-son!

Well, the struggle was over!

They knew it all at Wyndhamville—they had heard of the short, glorious strife, where so many lives had drifted out on the unknown sea, borne along on the red tides of Victory. And side by side, in the dark list of killed, the names of Charles Aylesford and Seth Pollard were inscribed.

The news came at nightfall—the tidings of that "glorious victory"—and all night long Amber Wyndham knelt at her bedside, her face buried in the pillows, silent and motionless, while the constellations climbed the clear sky with pitying light, and the moon, shining sadly through the stained oriel, laid blood-red crecants of ensanguined light on the white coverlet of her side.

But it was not in God's providence that this blind, passionate despair should endure longer.

It was the day preceding the Christmas festival, and the snowy hills were glazed with liquid diamonds, when Amber Wyndham, walking up and down, under the blue-barred cedars of the avenue, woke from her brief dream of despair.

"I will rouse myself from this trance," she murmured, wrapping the russet sables closer round her slender throat. "The same day that took Charles Aylesford from me made Hester Pollard childless, and I, who have drunk the cup of grief to the dregs, can perhaps whisper comfort. I have been selfish—blind; yet it is not too late, even now."

The wood-coloured house lay under battlements of grey rock, with a giant white pine throwing its broad flat branches over the mossy roof, and as Amber Wyndham opened the gate and passed under its shadow, it seemed to her like the shadow of death.

Widow Pollard's kitchen was a cosy place, bright with scoured tin and strings of festooned scurvy pepper. And the widow's face, as she stood there, was full of strange, tearful radiance, for, close at her side, pale and worn, yet alive and in the flesh, stood her son Seth.

Amber's face changed from deadly white to vivid red, yet she did not speak; her tongue o'ove to the roof of her parched mouth.

Seth read the eager, unvoiced question, and shook his head. "Don't ask me, Miss Amber. We were separated, and when I heard he was down I hunted for the body, but 'twas not no use."

Amber sat down, and leaned her dizzy head on her hands.

"How did you return?" she asked spiritlessly.

Seth told his story of ghastly wounds, fevered convalescence, and carefully plotted escape; but it was doubtful whether Amber heard it. When it was ended she rose.

"Don't think me unsympathetic because I have not spoken many words, Mrs. Pollard," she said. "I am glad for you, although—"

She could not finish the sentence. But as she turned away, her eye fell on a tiny picture in a leather frame on the mantel. She had been pale before—but now there was no vestige of colour in her face; a ghastly rigidity seemed to seize on every feature. She turned imperiously to Seth.

"Where did you get that?" she demanded, in a strained, unnatural voice.

"Well, there, I'd almost forgotten it," said Seth. "I put it there when I took off my overcoat. It was a poor fellow got killed in a skirmish, or rather, the day before that action when—"

Seth paused, warned by his mother's glance that he was trenching on dangerous ground, and stumbled into another sentence awkwardly enough.

"And I tended to him, a little after he was dead, and—"

"Dead! is he dead?"

Amber Wyndham's voice rang clear and metallic through the room.

"Dead! I should think so, and buried too. I brought home the picture, 'cause it seemed kind o' fustion to leave it there. But, Miss Amber—"

"Bring a glass o' water, Seth, quick!" exclaimed the widow; "she is fainting!"

But Amber put aside the glass.

"No," she said, her eyes still riveted on the little photograph, "I am better now—I will go home. It was only—the cold, and the sudden shock of seeing Seth alive again. Will you give me that picture, Seth? I—I think I know the man's friends."

Seth watched her, hurrying down the snowy path, with a puzzled face.

"Mother," he said, "what do you 'spose ailed her?"

"Seth," said the old woman, mysteriously, "that picture was a likeness of Amber Wyndham's husband."

"Miss Amber never was married, mother."

"Hush, child; it was when she and her father were travellin' in furrin parts. She wa'n't hardly sixteen, and he bewitched her with his headlong face. And the first they knowed, he had forged her father's name to a note, and was off for good. The matter was hushed over, when they came home. I never see him, Seth, nor ever heard his name, but I knowed from the look in Miss Amber's eyes to-night that the man was dead."

"And he died a'most in Cap'n Aylesford's arms," muttered Seth. "Well, if she was world-ain't the queerest I ever lived in."

Meanwhile Amber Wyndham was hurrying through the long shadows of the cedar avenue.

"Free—free!" she gasped, tearing at her sables, as if their down pressure impeded respiration. "O, merciful heaven! free, when it is too late!"

She tore the picture into a score of fragments, scattering them to the wind in reckless despair; she crushed the frail frame in her hands, with momentary insanity.

And then came the reaction. She fell on her knees on the snow-crusted earth, and burst into tears, each drop of which brought a tide of relief to her heart.

"God be merciful to me, a sinner," she murmured; "and God be merciful to him at the great Judgment Seat! He is dead—and death shall blot out all his transgressions."

Now silver cold the full moon rose on that blessed Christmas Eve—how like points of freezing light the stars glittered in the sky! Amber Wyndham sat alone by the fire; the curtains were not drawn, and the light burnt low under its shade, for Amber was far too sick at heart to bear aught more brilliant than the moonlight on the carpet, or the gleam of the fire.

"Christmas Eve!" she sighed, sadly. "O, how many heart-throbs are bright with the light of home-love to-night!—how many hearts are beating up voices of anthems of thankfulness into the silence of the sky! Well, I suppose I shall live down this sharp, gasping agony, after a while; rest will come to me as it comes to all."

She bowed her head upon her hands, as the clear distinct tongue of the village church-bell chimed eleven. At the same instant a step sounded on the threshold.

"Leave me alone yet a little time, papa," she said, without lifting her head; "I will go up stairs soon—it is not late."

There was a strange magnetic touch on her hair.

"You will welcome me back, Amber?"

She sprang up, pushing back the heavy locks from her brow, and gazing upward with eyes of wild, incredulous brightness.

"Amber, you will not send me away again? Death's cold hand has spared me to you—in sickness and among strangers, I lived on, long after they told me I must die. Amber! soul and body would not part, while you were away from me—and God has led me home at last. I have travelled day and night. I would not let poor, faithful Seth breathe a word to you, for I could not bear that other lips than mine should say to you 'He lives!' My fate lies on your lips, Amber—shall I go or stay?"

In the soft, white moonlight of the blessed Christmas Eve, she laid the secrets of her troubled life before him, as a weary traveller lays down the haunting burden he has carried through lagging years.

"Can you still love me now?" she asked.

"My poor little Amber—my wounded dove!" he whispered, "may God deal with me even as I with you. 'So, dearest!'"

He led her to the window, and pointed with tender, serious eyes to the spangled sky, where violet arch seemed literally to enfold the frosty world below.

"With the dawn of yonder stars that herald in the blessed Christmas, rises the dawn of our new life, Amber! Let the past be forgotten—henceforth we will date our years from the light of this Christmas-day!"

NEW WORKS.

BOW BELLS.—Part VII. London: J. Dick, 313, Strand.—This is decidedly the greatest part that has yet appeared of this highly popular periodical. So varied are the contents that every class is reached; and how such a mass of entertaining readable matter can be produced monthly at so trifling a cost increases our wonder as each part appears. Instead of flagging in merit, or falling off in the quality of paper, execution of engravings, the number of presents by way of supplements, *BOW BELLS* increases in the spirit with which its re-issue was begun. The lovers of music have "The Blanche Redowa," an excellent composition, by J. B. Thirlwall; a song, "St. Valentine's Day," music by W. H. Montgomery, words by Watkin Williams; "The White Rose Polka Mazurka," by George Kennedy; and two Danish national songs. Each of these compositions are cheap at the cost of the whole part. The ladies, in addition to the usual quantity of attractive needlework patterns, have a continuation of those excellent articles on Wax Flowers, by Madame Elise, with beautiful illustrations. The fine arts and picturesque sketches are all admirably executed, and the descriptive matter is exceedingly interesting. There are also portraits and memoirs of the Duke de Morny, Mrs. S. O. Hall, and Count de Montalembert. In this part commences two new tales, one by the popular authoress of "Twenty Straws," entitled "The Home Angel," and the other "One Tree Square," by the author of "Poor Genevieve," both of which promise to be of exciting interest. The great feature of the part, however, is the valentine number, containing "Cupid's Letter-book," introducing tales by Madame de Chatelet, Eliza Winstanley, Madame Elise, Winifred Stanley Lane, and a poem by Eliza Cook, entitled "St. Valentine's Day." These tales are all beautifully illustrated in a very superior style; there is also another illustration of "The Morn of St. Valentine," by Kenny Meadows; and the first of a series of illustrations of the month, by W. H. Prior, commencing with February, with "A Farm Scene in Sussex." But we need not stop here. With this number is also presented two coloured pictures—Her Majesty in her Royal Robes, and an exquisite View of Windsor Castle. There are also the first of a series of coloured engravings of "The Crowned Sovereigns of the World," with memoirs and histories of their places, forming a highly interesting feature. With the part is also presented a beautiful coloured steel plate of the Paris Fashions, such as we have seen priced at the West-end at one shilling; and yet the whole part, with these contents and a variety of other useful and entertaining matter—such as the Ladies' Toilet Table, Practical Receipts, illustrated Characters, &c.—is issued for sixpence. We advise all our readers to get this really extraordinary part. The pictures themselves will be found well worth framing, either for the cottage or the drawing-room.

LETTERS ON AMERICAN RAILWAYS. No. 1. By WILLIAM LANCE. London: 26, Throgmorton-street.—This pamphlet, or letter, as it is called, gives a most interesting account of the rise and construction of the Atlantic and Great Western Railway, from New York to St. Louis. The distance between those places—1,200 miles—has been accomplished within forty hours, without change of carriage. To all those interested in railway matters, we heartily recommend this, the first letter.

ODDS AND ENDS. No. 1. Sketches of Highland Character. Sheep Farmers and Drovers. Edinburgh: Edmonstone and Douglas.—This is a highly amusing little work, and a perusal of it will give a clearer insight into Highland character than works of greater pretension.

CAKES, LEEKS, PUDDINGS AND POTATOES. A Lecture on the Nationalities of the United Kingdom. By GEORGE SKATON, Advocate. Edinburgh: Edmonstone and Douglas.—This is one of the most interesting lectures we have fallen across for some time. The author is keen in perception, clear in his description, and has withal an eye to the humorous. The characteristics of the sister kingdoms are touched upon in a most readable form, and will be found to while away a most agreeable hour, historical matter being introduced with anecdote in a very pleasant way.

CHATEL'S ILLUSTRATED NORTHERN COUNTRY ALMANACK FOR 1865. Newcastle-on-Tyne: J. W. Chatel, Northern Journal Office.—Without exception this is the best and most instructive almanack we have ever seen issued at the price, viz., twopenny. Every leaf contains information for somebody—remarkable events, gardening, old customs, business notes, short memoirs and portraits of eminent men in the House of Commons, stamps and taxes, tales, &c., in all sixty-four pages of well-selected matter.

CHATEL'S NORTH OF ENGLAND ANNUAL.—This is a smaller work, issued from the same office, for one penny; and in addition to the almanack there are home hints, which should be well studied in every family.

THE PRACTICAL GARDENER.

GARDENING OPERATIONS FOR THE WEEK.

FLOWER GARDEN.—The first opportunity should now be taken to sow hardy annuals in circles or borders, where they are intended to flower, covering them lightly, and thinning out when ready. Sow climbers in heat, or propagate by cuttings. Continue to stick cuttings of dahlias in heat. Make a gentle hot-bed to receive fresh-potted bedding-out plants. Plant ranunculuses, if not already done, when the ground is sufficiently dry. Pot off well rooted cuttings of calceolarias that were put in during the autumn. Give autumnous a top-dressing of fresh compost, after removing dead and decaying leaves; also a little increase of water may be given. Plant evergreens, &c., for hedges. Look well to lawns, grass, edgings, gravel walks, &c.

KITCHEN GARDEN.—Proceed with all speed in preparing ground for main crops. Fork over ridges and continue trenching; destroy grubs, &c. Sow cabbage on a warm border. Plant out autumn sowing onions in a favourable situation. Sow broad beans as advised in our last, and draw earth over advancing crops, whilst those grown in pots and pans should be gradually hardened off. Give cucumbers from air-dry when the weather will permit. Cauliflower and lettuce should have a little wood-ashes or sand lightly sprinkled over them to absorb moisture, and thin out where too thick, to prevent them damping off. Sow parsnips, the Hollow Crown, in shallow drills, about fifteen inches apart from row to row. Sow peas for a succession crop, selecting Woodford's Green Harrow, Redman's Blue Imperial, Flack's Victory, and other early sorts; also harden off those sown in boxes or pots.

FRUIT GARDEN.—Bring pruning, tying, and training to a conclusion as early as possible, as the buds will soon begin to appear. Clear away superfluous runners and dead leaves from strawberry beds. Get ready scions of superior sorts of apples and pears for grafting. Keep them with their cut ends in damp soil, in a cool situation. Look to fig trees, and prune and train all requiring such treatment.

FROM TEETHACHE, TO COLIC, FEVER, NEURALGIA, AND ALL NERVOUS AFFECTIONS. See Dr. Johnson's Tonic and the Pills. They allay pain and give power to the whole nervous system without affecting the bowels. A box, by post, 12 stamps, Rendell, Chemist, Clapham-road, London.—*Advt.*

NO MORE COMPLAINTS OF A WILLOW AND GIBBS SEWING MACHINE.—Simple, compact, efficient, durable, and noiseless. Warranted to fulfil all the requirements of a perfect family machine. (Presented with an endorsement at the Regent-street.)—*Advertisement.*

H. WALKER'S COCKETS.—The new Patent Uncoloured Handles keep the Hooks at all times in true position. By post, 100 needles, in a set of Penelope, 61 to 141, set Uncoloured, 1s. Maker to the Queen, Alcester, and 47, Green-street, London.—*Advertisement.*

General News.

The following letter has been written by Garibaldi in reply to an address from some ladies of Trieste:—"Capri, Jan. 10.—My dear Friends,—Tell the spirited ladies of Trieste that Italy will one day reward their generous inspirations. The tyranny of the foreigner cannot last much longer in a country where, as at Trieste, the mothers nourish their infants both with their milk and with a hatred of their country's oppressors. When Italy shall be able to claim her frontiers, she will not forget that Nice of the east—Ever yours, GARIBALDI."

A SPLENDID service of plate, value £1,000, has been presented by the Midland Railway Company to Mr. S. Beale, M.P., who has recently retired from the chairmanship of the company.

The present population of Paris is 1,667,841, which, with the garrison of 28,300, makes 1,696,141.

MR. MONTAGUE SMITH, Q.C., who has been appointed to fill the seat on the bench in the Court of Common Pleas, vacant by the resignation of Mr. Justice Williams, is the eldest son of Thomas Smith, Esq., of Bideford School Bideford. In politics he is described as a "Liberal Conservative," and was elected in 1859 for the borough of Truro, which he has since represented to the present time. He is a member of the Middle Temple, and for many years past has been leader on the Western Circuit.

£100 is given by the National Rifle Association for the most efficient and serviceable military breech-loading rifle, to be competed for at Woolwich, on the 30th of May, 1865. The prize is open to gunmakers and others. Entrance fee £5, to be paid at the office of the National Rifle Association on or before the 1st May, where the conditions may be obtained.

The Edgar, 71, screw line-of-battle ship, Captain Geoffrey T. B. Horaby, flagship of Rear-Admiral S. O. Dacres, C.B., is preparing at Portsmouth for a voyage to Lisbon on special service, understood to be the favour of his Majesty the King of Portugal with the insignia of the Most Noble Order of the Garter. It is stated that the Earl of Selton goes out to Lisbon in the Edgar as the representative of her Majesty, and the bearer of the Garter to the King of Portugal.

FROM the "Newspaper Press Directory" for 1865 we extract the following on the present position of the newspaper press:—"There are now published in the United Kingdom 1,271 newspapers, distributed as follows:—England, 944; Wales, 41; Scotland, 140; Ireland, 182; British Isles, 14. Of these there are 48 daily papers published in England, 1 in Wales, 11 in Scotland, 12 in Ireland, and 1 in British Isles. On reference to this useful Directory for 1855, we find the following interesting facts—viz., that in that year there were published in the United Kingdom 799 journals; of these, 87 papers were issued daily, viz., 15 in London, 10 in the provinces, 7 in Scotland, and 5 in Ireland; but in 1865 there are now established and circulated 1,271 papers, of which no less than 73 are issued daily, showing that the press of the country has largely extended in the interval, and the daily issues standing 73 against 87 in 1855. The magazines now in course of publication, including the quarterly reviews, number 554; of these, 298 are decidedly of a religious character, and by which the Church of England, Wesleyans, Methodists, Baptists, Independents, and other Christian communities, are duly represented."

In anticipation of a vacancy in the representation of Lambeth being caused by the retirement of Mr. W. Williams from public life, Mr. Cave, who was one of the sheriffs of London and Middlesex the year before last, has announced his intention of becoming a candidate in conjunction with Mr. Doulton, one of the sitting members. Mr. J. Hinde Palmer, Q.C., son-in-law of the Right Hon. E. Tennyson D'Eyncourt, who for many years represented the borough, is also mentioned as a candidate.

The Washington correspondent of the Boston Journal writes that Mr. Blair was warmly greeted at Richmond, and the wife of President Davis actually "threw her arms around the old gentleman and kissed him."

WE observe in the 1865 edition of "Debrett's Peerage" that there are 24 dukes, 84 marquises, 197 earls, 57 viscounts, and 215 barons, of the United Kingdom; 117 of whom are baronets, 430 have been married, the remaining 97 still being in a state of single blessedness; 80 have obtained academical honours at Oxford, while 50 have been rectors of the same from the sister university; only 9 peers are in holy orders, two of whom are bishops (Bath and Wells, and Team, Kilgilla, and Achonry); 743 of the younger sons of peers have obtained honours of various distinctions, have had or still hold Government appointments, or like 974 of the daughters of peers, are married. There are only 14 peeresses in their own right. Last year there died 4 dukes (Aberdeen, Newcastle, and the 2nd and 3rd Dukes of Cleveland)—1 marquess (Bristol)—8 earls (Aberdeen, Gosford, Poulett, Morley, Odoardo, Sibir, Carlisle, and Clare, this last title becoming extinct)—1 viscount (Simsouth)—4 barons (Ashburton, Manservants, Rodney, and Somerville)—1 lord bishop (Ely),—and 1 peeress in her own right (Bathurst).

A MURDEROUS OFFER.—The following appears in the advertising columns of the *Selma (Alabama) Dispatch*:—"One Million Dollars Wanted, to Have Peace by the 1st of March.—If the citizens of the Southern Confederacy will furnish me with the cash, or good securities for the sum of 1,000,000 dollars, I will cause the lives of Abraham Lincoln, William H. Seward, and Andrew Johnson to be taken by the 1st of March next. This will give us peace, and satisfy the world that cruel tyrants cannot live in a land of liberty. If this is not accomplished nothing will be claimed beyond the sum of 50,000 dollars in advance, which is supposed to be necessary to reach and slaughter the three villains. I will give myself 100 dollars towards this patriotic purpose. Every one wishing to contribute will address 'X,' box, Cahaba, Alabama.—December 1, 1864."

THE PAGLIANO THEATRE, FLORENCE.—An important meeting, of upwards of 3,000 people, was lately held in the Pagliano Theatre at Florence, the new capital, to discuss the encyclopaedic letter and other matters of national interest. A splendid coup d'œil was presented by the appearance of so many of the distinguished families of Italy, who nearly filled the immense building. This magnificent edifice, the largest theatre in Italy, was built, and is owned, by Professor Girolamo Pagliano, the discoverer of the celebrated medicines, *Pagliano's Syrup and Pills*, which have the property of purifying the blood, and thus, and by their salutary effect on the whole system, they have effected very extraordinary cures in phthisis, cases of gout, consumption, and general derangement of the digestive organs. Possessor of an immense fortune, chiefly realized from his valuable discovery, the talented Professor has, for the sale of his medicines, which have already benefited many millions of the human race in all parts of the world.

TAKING CARE OF YOUR HEALTH.—A Sure Cure for Erysipelas, and many other diseases, is now made known in a treatise on Foreign and Native Herbal Preparation, published by Dr. O. Phelps Brown. The prescription was furnished him in such a providential manner that he cannot conscientiously refuse to make it known, as it has cured every body who has used it, never having failed in a single case. It is equally sure in cases of Erysipelas, and the ingredients may be obtained of any Herbalist. Sent to all on receipt of four stamps to prepay postage, &c. This work of 48 octavo pages, beautifully illustrated, also treats on Consumption, Bronchitis, Asthma, Liver Complaints, General Debility, and gives the best known Herbal Bismarck for their positive and permanent cure. Address, Dr. O. Phelps Brown, 4, Kings-street, Covent-garden, London.—*Advertisement.*

inventor, V. G. Groun, Pianos and Musical Instruments,
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WILCOX AND GIBBS' SEWING-MACHINE is neat, compact, and durable.

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WILCOX AND GIBBS' SEWING-MACHINE is speedy and not slow.

WILCOX AND GIBBS' SEWING-MACHINE is a little fairy.

WILCOX AND GIBBS' SEWING-MACHINE is the household treasure.

WILCOX AND GIBBS' SEWING-MACHINE is "the needlewoman's emancipation."

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WILCOX AND GIBBS' SEWING-MACHINE is easy to operate and to manage.

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WILCOX AND GIBBS' SEWING-MACHINE is carefully made, stout, and finished.

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WILCOX AND GIBBS' SEWING-MACHINE is warranted to answer every household requirement in sewing.

WILCOX AND GIBBS' SEWING-MACHINE is pre-eminently superior to every other.

WILCOX AND GIBBS' SEWING-MACHINE is not only labour-saving, but useful, perfect, pretty, magical.

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WILCOX AND GIBBS' SEWING-MACHINE can be run by steam-power, with extraordinary economy, at the rate of four thousand stitches a minute.

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WILCOX AND GIBBS' SEWING-MACHINE have now been introduced, invariably with satisfaction to the purchaser, in the remotest regions of the earth.

WILCOX AND GIBBS' SEWING-MACHINE always give satisfaction, and are always recommended for their merits.

WILCOX AND GIBBS' SEWING-MACHINE have a guarantee for their particular excellence in their world-wide and high-class reputation.

WILCOX AND GIBBS' SEWING-MACHINE are out work that is strong, elastic, firm, durable, reliable, and good.

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